



SUPERMAN IN ACTION COMICS ANNUAL

5
1993

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BLOOD LINES

EARTHPLAGUE

LOOSE CANNON!

TM



BY LOEB, MODER,
RUBINSTEIN,
MARZAN & T. BEATTY



IT IS A SOUND THE
WHOLE WORLD
WELCOMED BACK...

BUT, IN METROPOLIS IT
IS PARTICULARLY SWEET.

IT BEGINS WITH
A RUSH OF AIR--



--AND IS FOLLOWED
BY THE THRILLING
SHOUT:

LOOK!
UP IN THE
SKY!

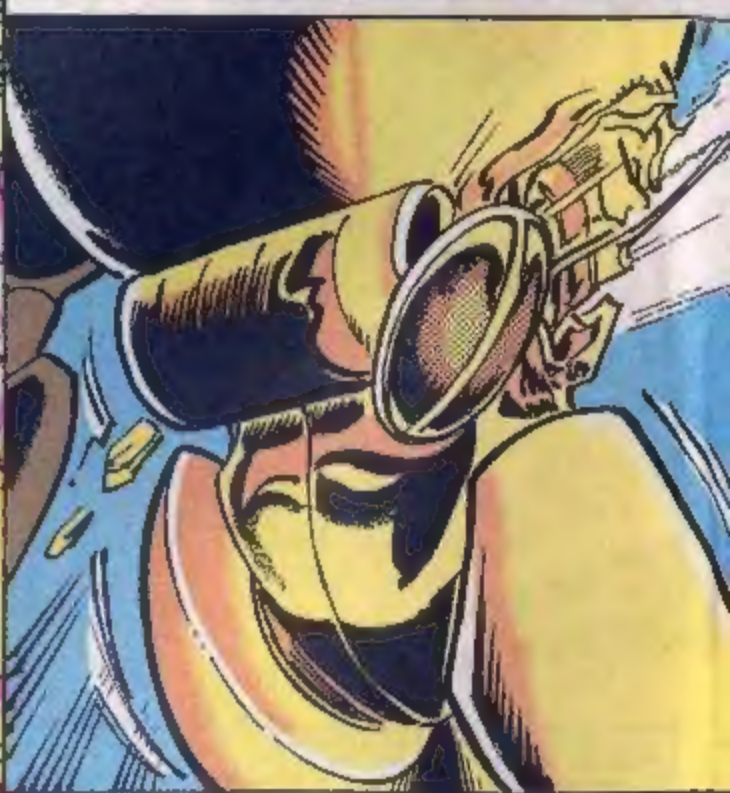
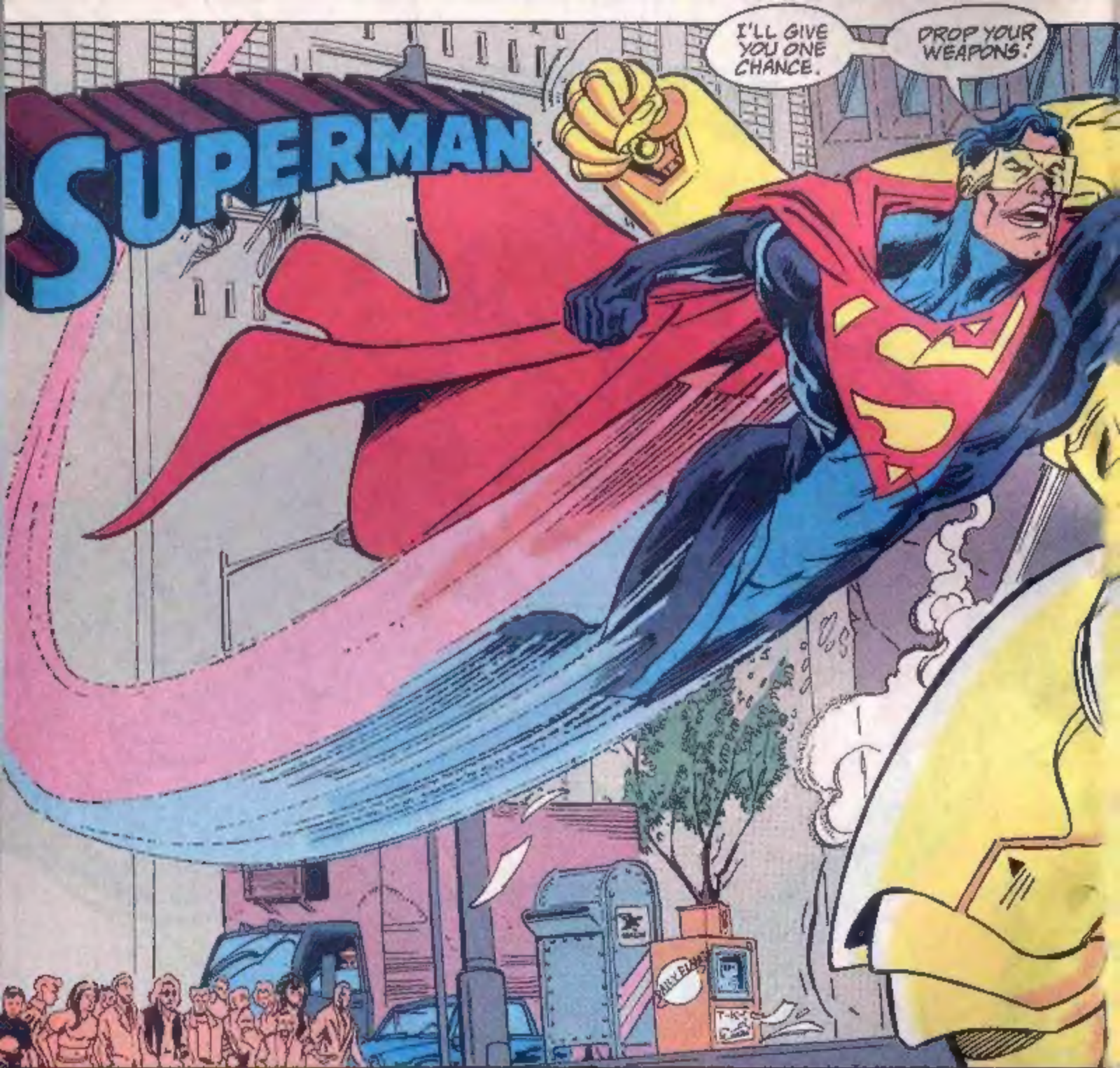
IT'S A
BIRD!

IT'S--

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I'LL GIVE YOU ONE CHANCE.

DROP YOUR WEAPONS!

FREEDOM SQUARE
ARMORY

SKKKKEEE!
EXTERNAL DAMAGE
OF LEVEL NINE.

RE-CALIBRATING
FIRE POWER.
PREPARE TO
RESPOND.



...HELP!



YOU WANT
SOME
HELP?

HERE!



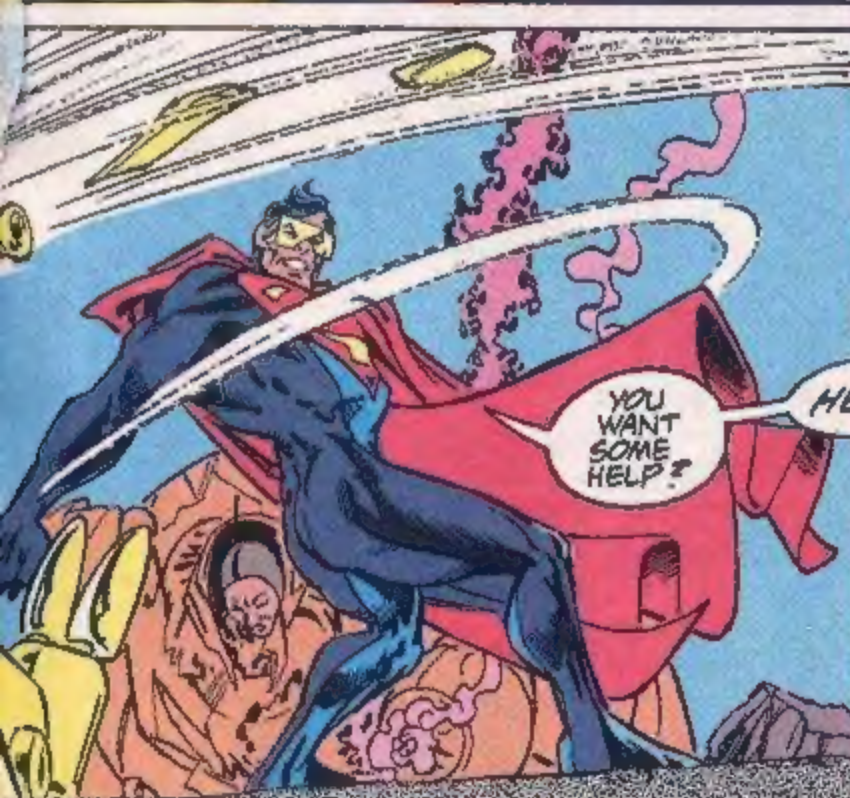
NOW,
LET'S
FINISH
THIS!



FREEDOM SQUARE ARMORY

SKKKKEEE!
EXTERNAL DAMAGE
OF LEVEL NINE.

RE-CALIBRATING
FIRE POWER.
PREPARE TO
RESPOND.



YOU
WANT
SOME
HELP?

HERE!



NOW.
LET'S
FINISH
THIS!





THAT'S ALL THEY ARE...

...GLORIFIED STREETCLEANERS.

NOT MUCH LEFT TO DO.

...WHEN THERE'RE GUYS WHO CAN BEND STEEL IN THEIR BARE HANDS.

14th
PRECINCT



I OUGHTA KNOW.



WASN'T THAT LONG AGO, I WAS ONE OF THE STREETCLEANERS...



CAREFUL WITH THAT THING.

?



THEN AGAIN, YOU WERE NEVER MUCH FOR BEING CAREFUL.

CHARMING AS USUAL, MAGS.

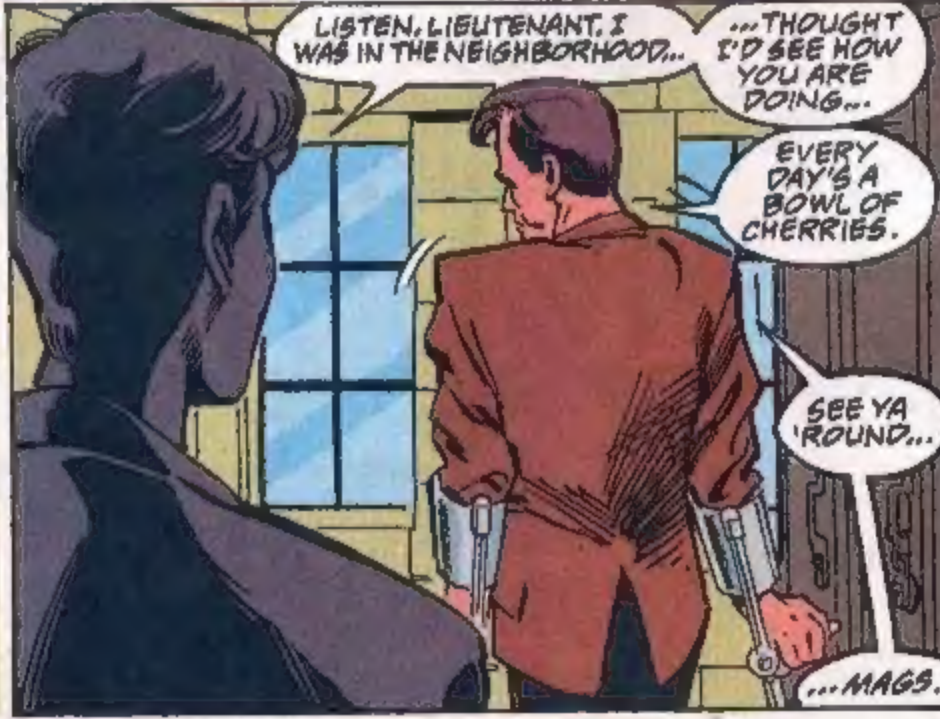
EDDIE, IT'S "SAWYER." IT'S "INSPECTOR" SAWYER NOW. YOU CAN EVEN CALL ME "MAGGIE"...



YEAH.

FINE.

WHATEVER.



LISTEN, LIEUTENANT, I WAS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD...

...THOUGHT I'D SEE HOW YOU ARE DOING...

EVERY DAY'S A BOWL OF CHERRIES.

SEE YA 'ROUND...

...MAGS.



IT WASN'T THAT LONG AGO...



WHEN I HAD A LIFE.

"SUPERMAN WAS THE ONLY COMPETITION FOR THE COPS, THE REAL HEROES. AND S.C.U. WERE THE TOP."



THE HIGHER-UPS THINK I'M NUTS FOR ASKING YOU TO JOIN S.C.U.

YOU'RE A GOOD COP. THE BEST CONVICTION RATE IN THE DEPARTMENT.

BUT, YOUR REP IS, YOU'RE RUDE, INSUBORDINATE AND YOU LIKE TO HOT DOG.

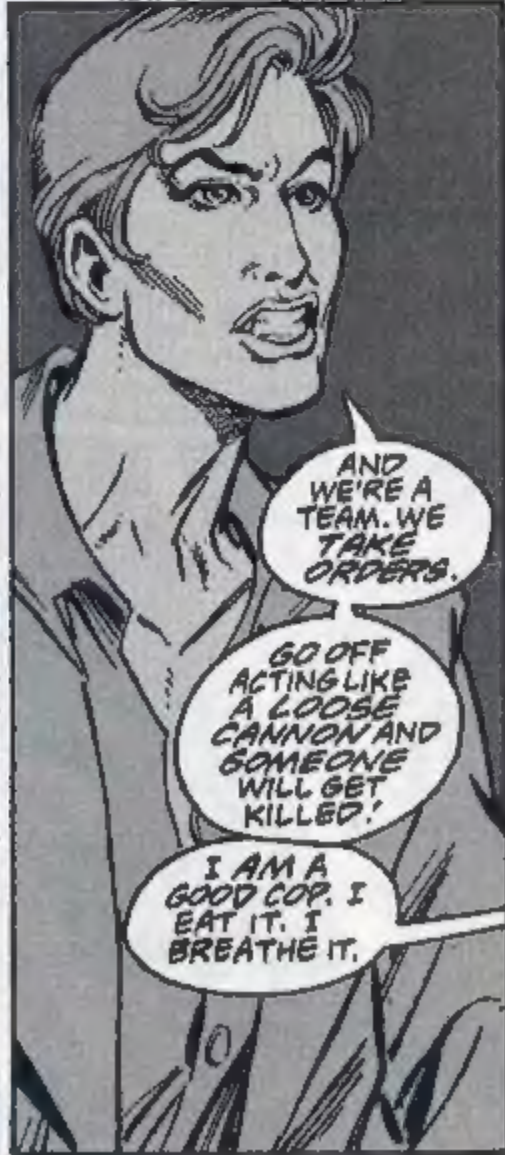
I DON'T KNOW...

MAYBE I JUST DON'T PLAY WELL WITH THE OTHER BOYS.



DON'T GET CUTE WITH ME. S.C.U. ISN'T LIKE ANY OTHER DIVISION.

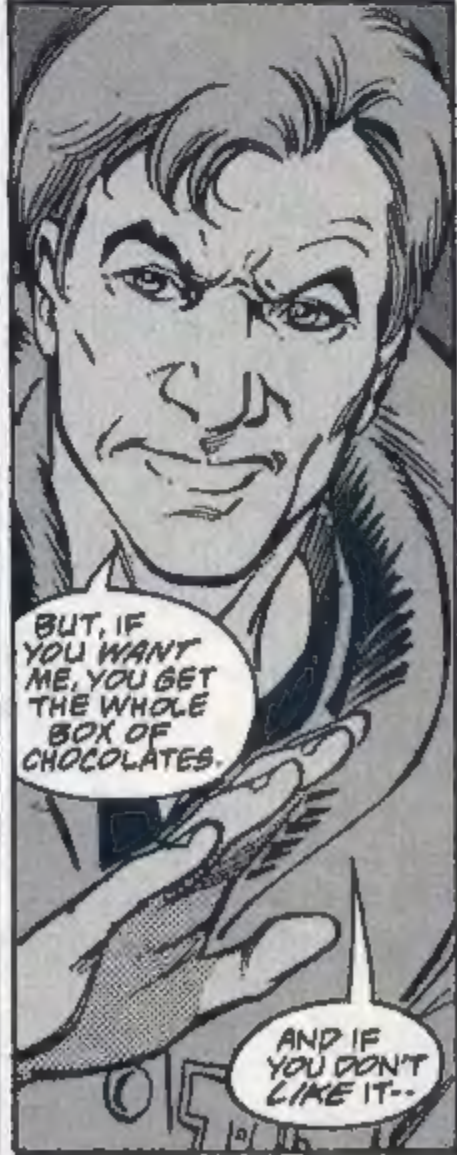
WE'RE THE FIRST, LAST, AND BEST LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST THESE NEW, HEAVYWEIGHT LAWBREAKERS!



AND WE'RE A TEAM. WE TAKE ORDERS.

GO OFF ACTING LIKE A LOOSE CANNON AND SOMEONE WILL GET KILLED!

I AM A GOOD COP. I EAT IT. I BREATHE IT.



BUT, IF YOU WANT ME, YOU GET THE WHOLE BOX OF CHOCOLATES.

AND IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT--



"--LET'S CALL
IT QUITS RIGHT
NOW."

"IT WAS A MATCH
MADE IN HELL. SHE
DIDN'T LIKE IT. BUT,
SHE HAD TO ADMIT--

"I WAS GREAT.

"UNTIL..."

THIS IS SCU
UNIT #5 HEADING
SOUTHBOUND IN
PURSUIT OF A--

--SOUPED-UP
SOMETHING OR
OTHER!

HE'S FAST.
BUT... HE'S ALL
MINE!

WALKER!
YOU KNOW
PROCEDURE.
YOU WAIT FOR
BACK UP!

NO.
CAN. DO.
MAGS.

AND
DON'T
CALL
ME--

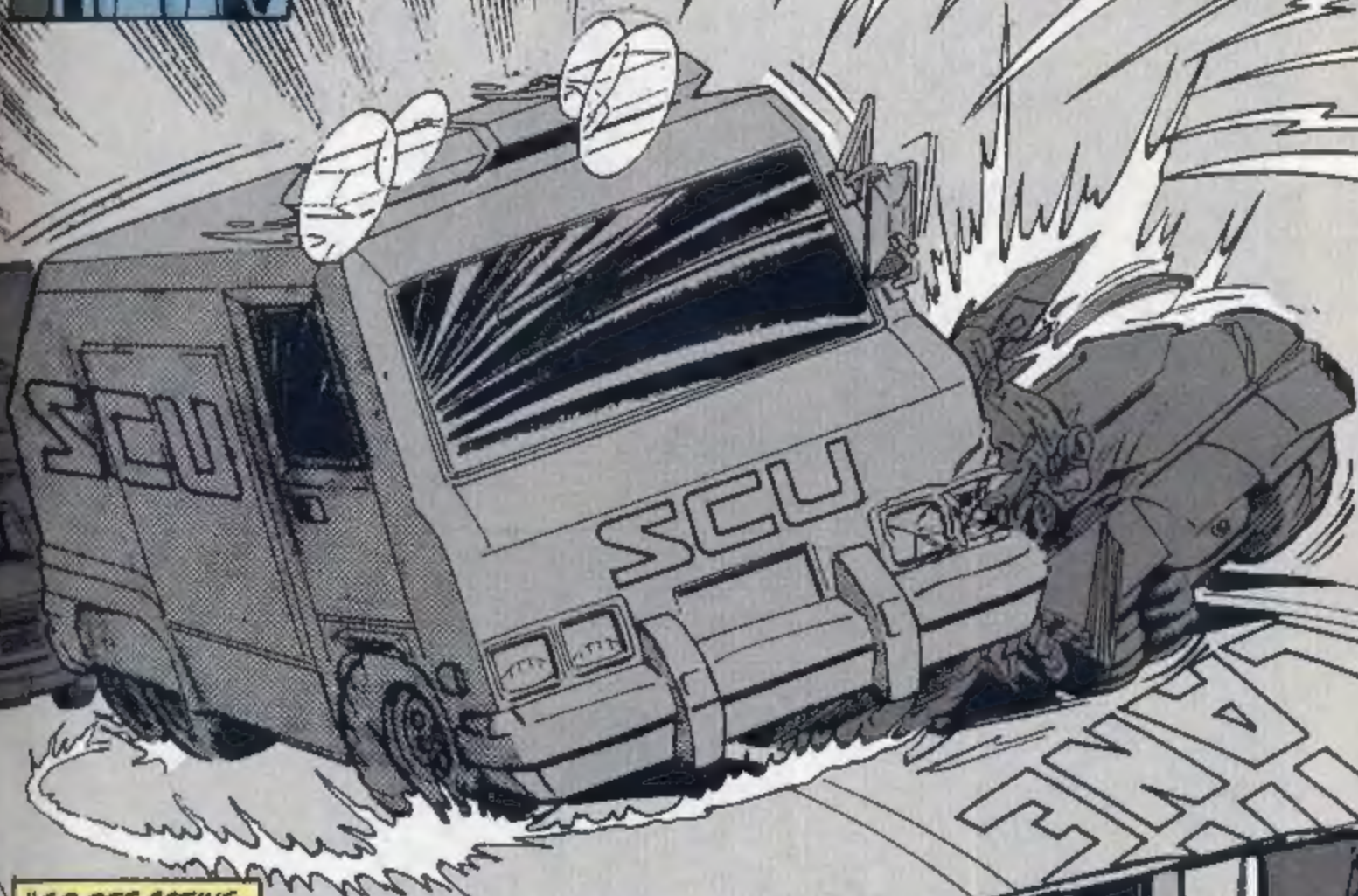
WHATEVER
YOU SAY--

--MAGS.

KLIK

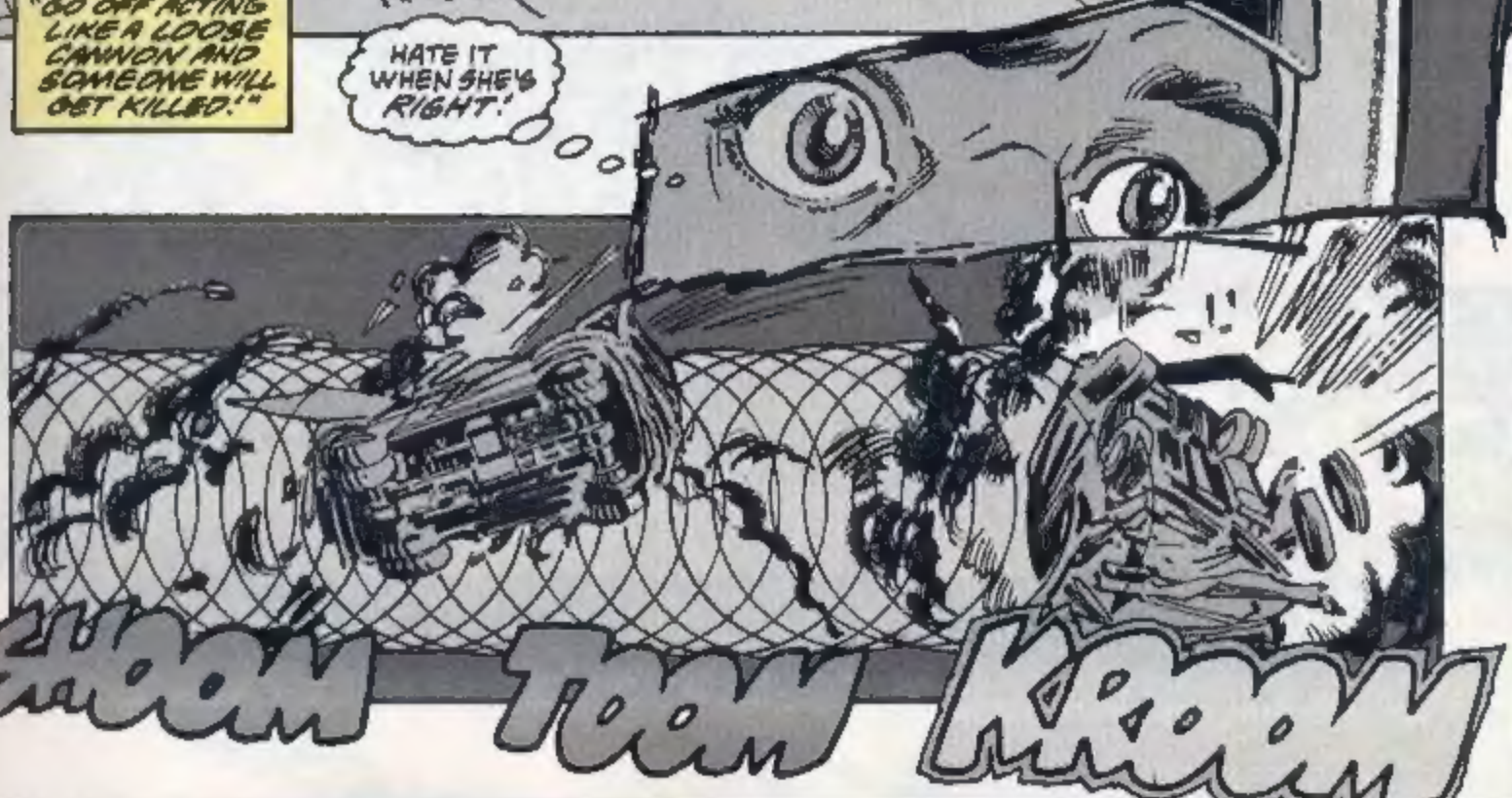
SKREEE

DOOMKORREER

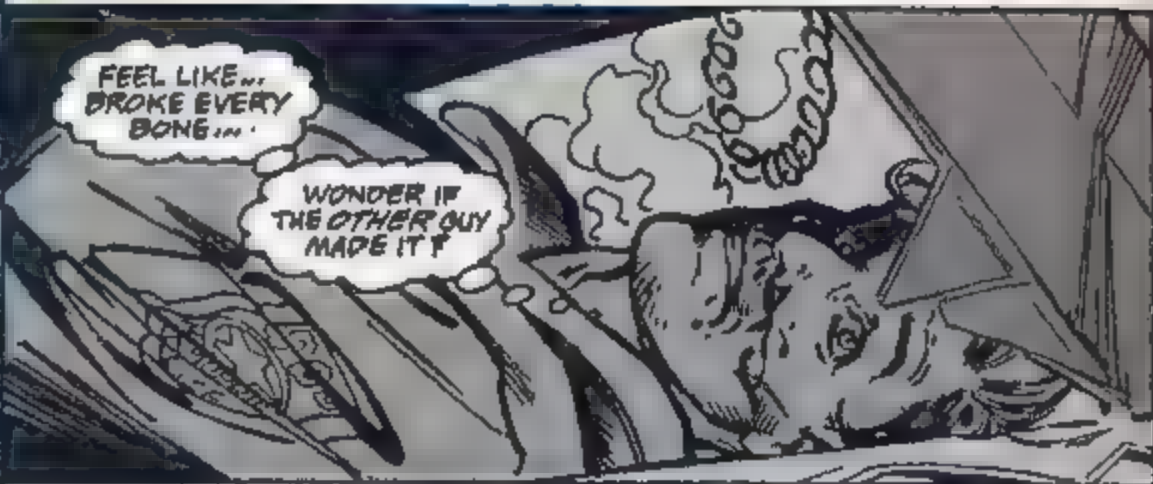


"GO OFF ACTING LIKE A LOOSE CANNON AND SOMEONE WILL GET KILLED!"

HATE IT WHEN SHE'S RIGHT!

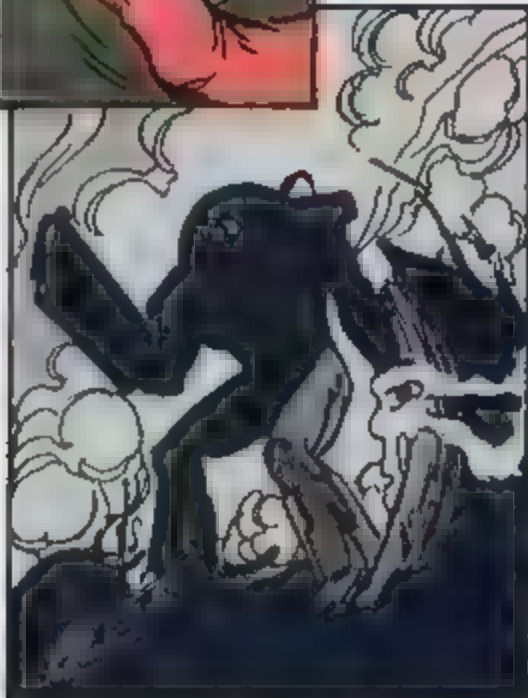


SHOON TOON KROON

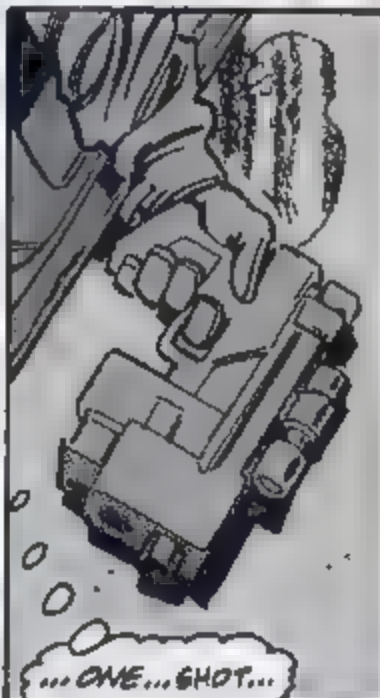


FEEL LIKE...
BROKE EVERY
BONE...

WONDER IF
THE OTHER GUY
MADE IT?



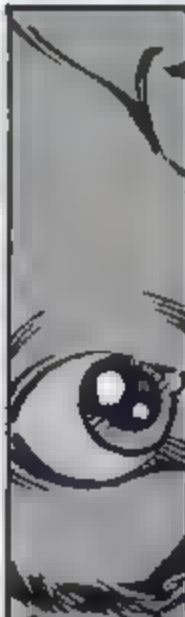
...OH... NO...



... ONE... SHOT...



THMP
THMP
THMP



THMP THMP THMP THMP THMP



EDDIE...

IT'S
SAWY--!
MAGG!

CAN YOU
HEAR ME?

SAY "I
TOLD YOU
SO"--AND
GET OUT!

I... DO...
THINK... YOU'RE
A GOOD COP,
YOU KNOW...

BRRINNG! BRRRR! NNNNNNG!

I LOVE
YOU, TOO.

NO, I'D BE
LESS THAN HONEST
IF I DIDN'T TELL
YOU...

...UNTIL YOU
GET BETTER,
I MEAN.

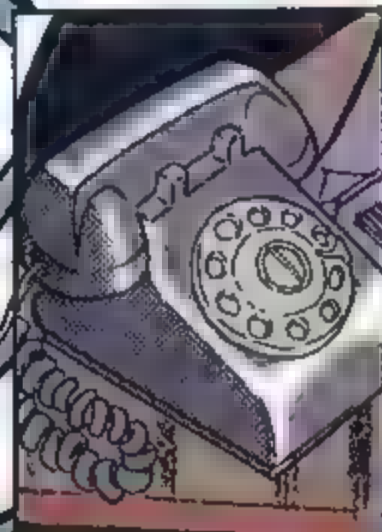
BUT, UNLESS THE
S.C.U. IS PLANNIN'
ON WHEELING
A CRIPPLE ONTO
A CRIME SCENE...

...YOU'RE
OFF THE
S.C.U....

BRRRRRRRNNNNNNNG!

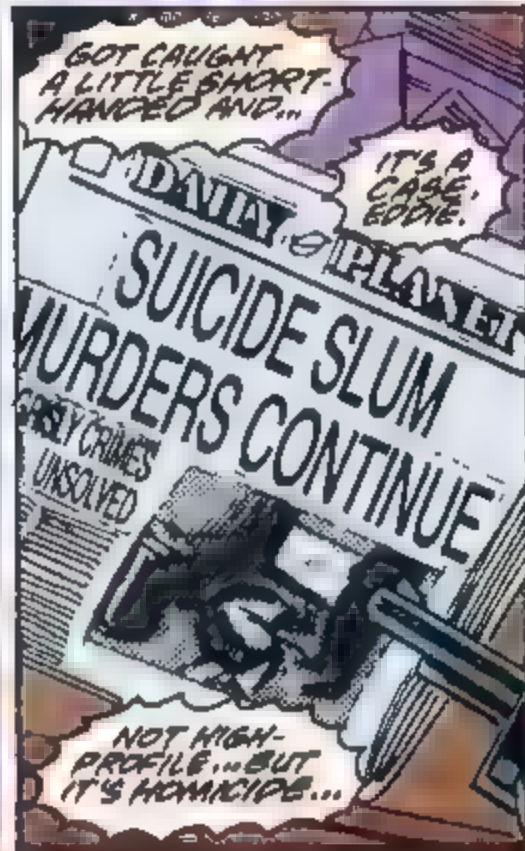
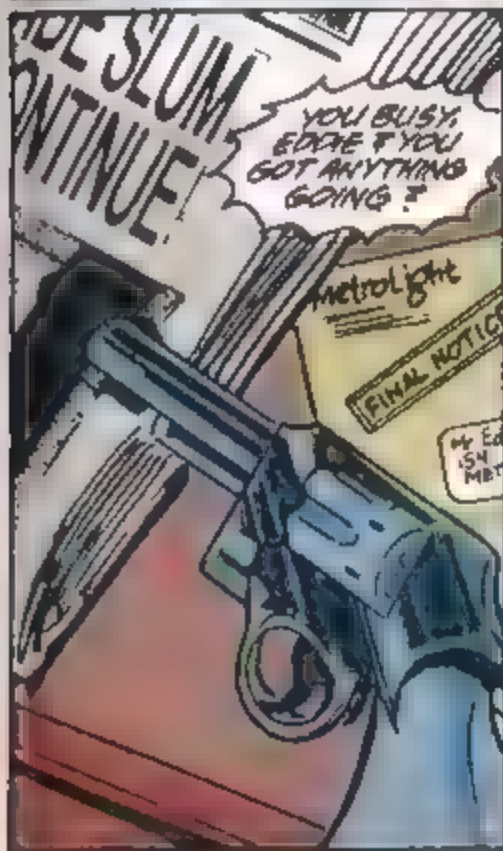
LOOK... I
GOT YOU... A DESK
JOB... ONLY TILL
SOMETHING
BETTER...

AND I'LL FIND YOU
SOMETHING BETTER,
EDDIE. I PROMISE.



RINNING

BRINNING!



EDISON
HOTEL

ROOMS BY
DAY+ WEEK

"SOMEONE IS MURDERING
THE HOMELESS IN THE BOWERY,"
SHE SAYS.

THAT'S ABOUT AS
LOW-PROFILE AS
IT GETS.

BUT, SHE'S RIGHT.
I'M BACK ON THE
STREETS.

AND I FIGURE I
CAN KILL MYSELF
ANY DAY.

LOOK. I NEED
A LEAD.

ANYBODY SEES
ANYTHING. HEARS
ANYTHING. I'LL PAY
TWENTY BUCKS.

FORT TWENTY.
BUCKS. I'LL SAY
I KILT THEM
FOLKS.

YOU
KNOW
WHAT I
MEAN?

SORRY... DON'T
KNOW NUTHIN'...

SAW HUGE
GUY LOOKED
LIKE BUG.

DUMBO
DUMBO
DUMBO!

WHATCHU CARE,
MAN? NOBODY
CARES 'BOUT US!

...N...NO...

IT WAS
LIKE A
BIG
BUG.

OUTER
SPACE. DUDE
OUTINER
SPACE!!

WEIRD.
UGLY. BUG.

BUGS.

BUGS?!

MAYBE
I CAN HELP
YOU...

RAINBOW
SOUP
KITCHEN
←

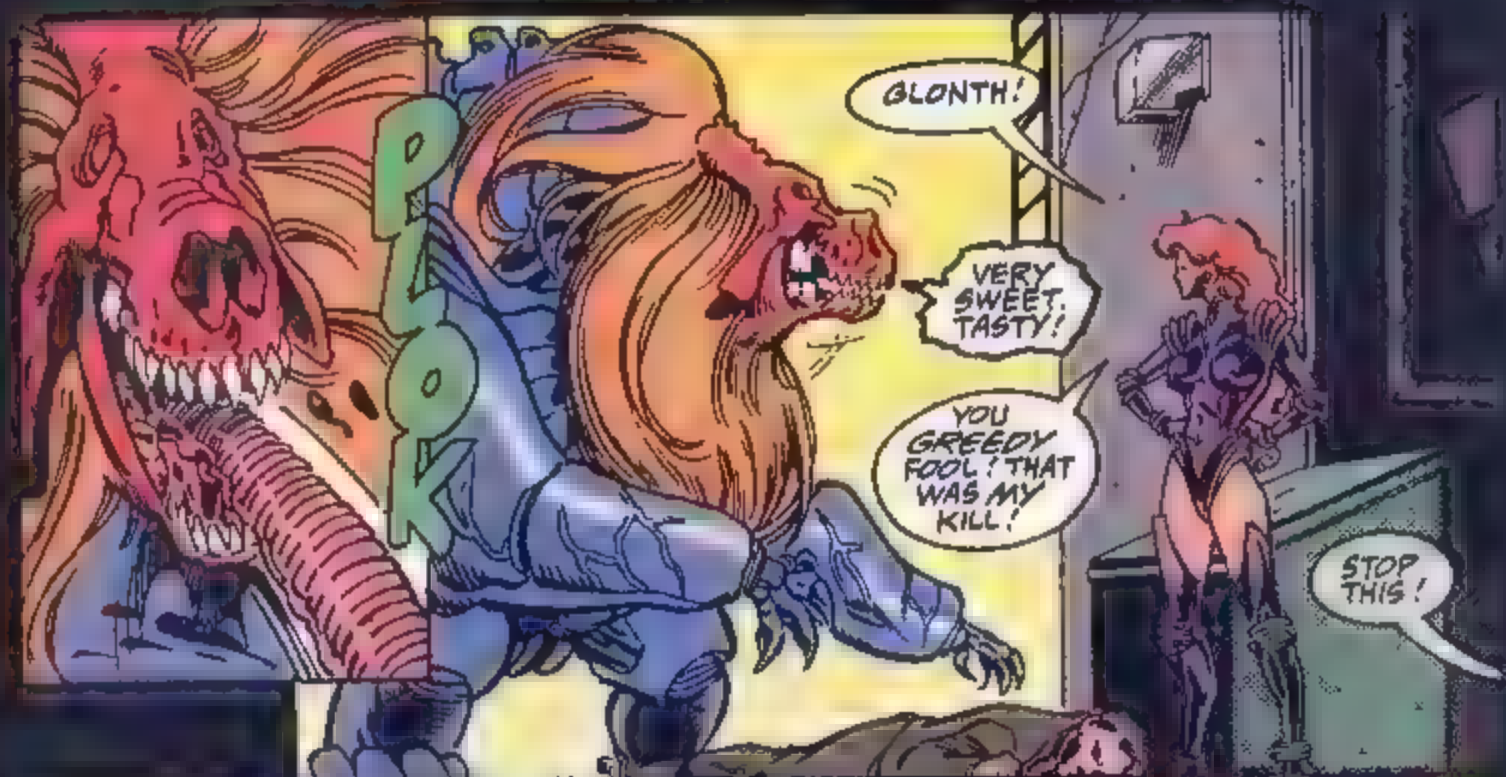


AREN'T YOU A LITTLE
UPTOWN TO
BE WORKING
THIS FAR
DOWNTOWN?

I DON'T
KNOW.

MAYBE I'M
JUST WHAT YOU'RE
LOOKING FOR...



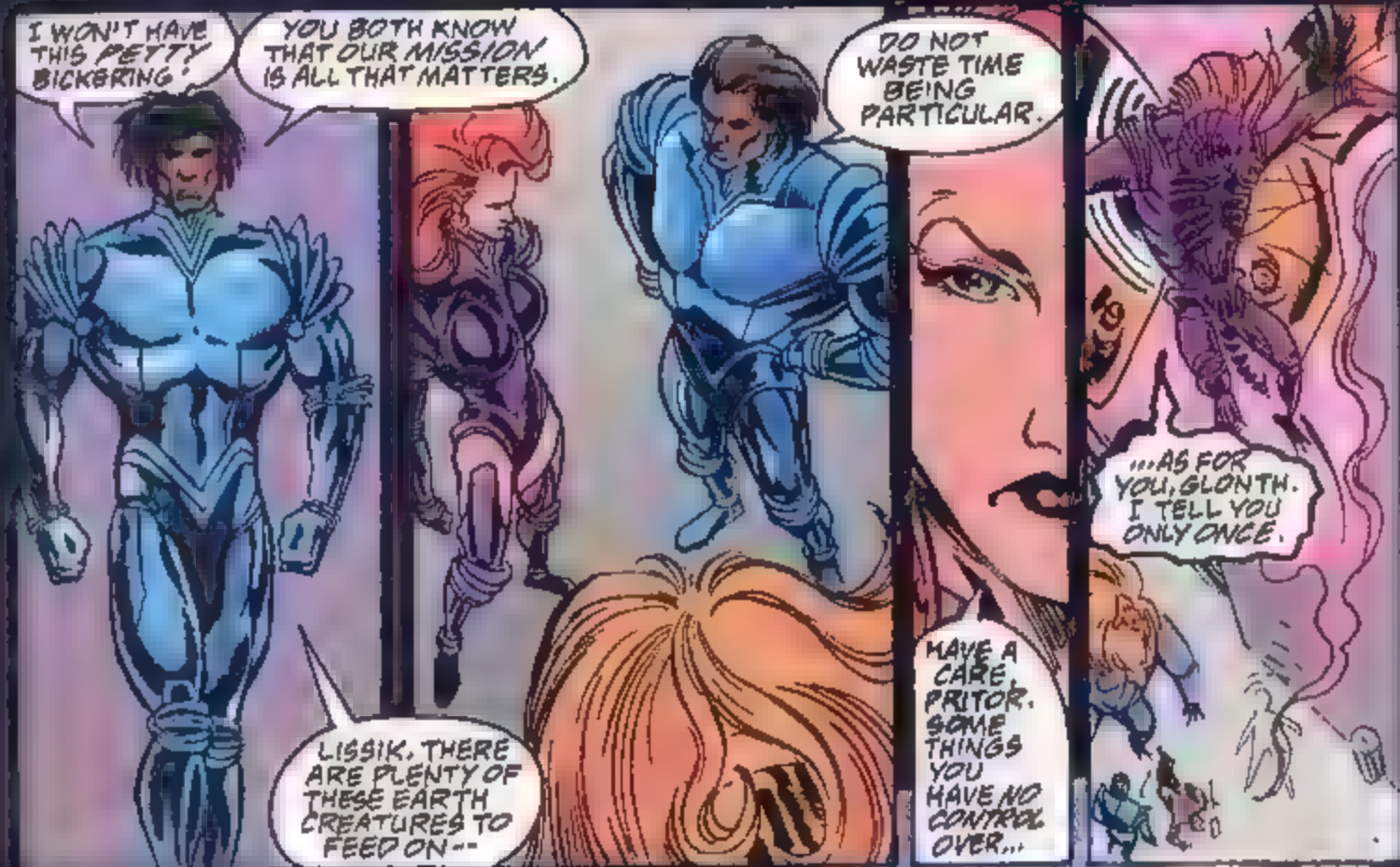


GLONTH!

VERY SWEET, TASTY!

YOU GREEDY FOOL! THAT WAS MY KILL!

STOP THIS!



I WON'T HAVE THIS PETTY BICKERING!

YOU BOTH KNOW THAT OUR MISSION IS ALL THAT MATTERS.

DO NOT WASTE TIME BEING PARTICULAR.

...AS FOR YOU, GLONTH. I TELL YOU ONLY ONCE.

HAVE A CARE PRITOR. SOME THINGS YOU HAVE NO CONTROL OVER...

LISSIK, THERE ARE PLENTY OF THESE EARTH CREATURES TO FEED ON--

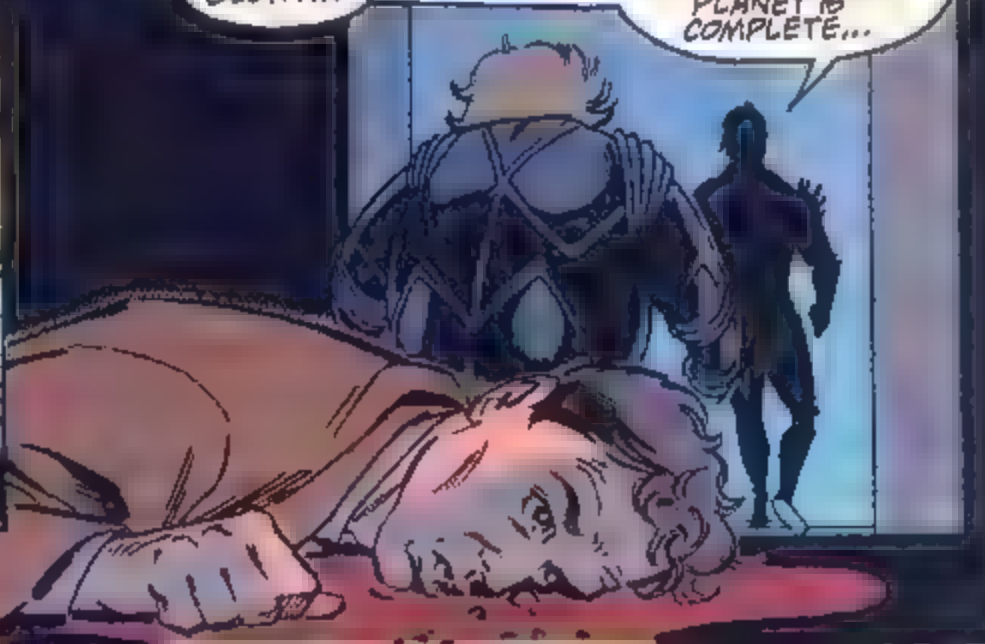


NEVER INTERFERE WITH MY KILL AGAIN!

PRITOR, I'M STILL HUNGRY.

GLONTH.

I WILL BE GLAD WHEN OUR BUSINESS ON THIS PATHETIC PLANET IS COMPLETE...





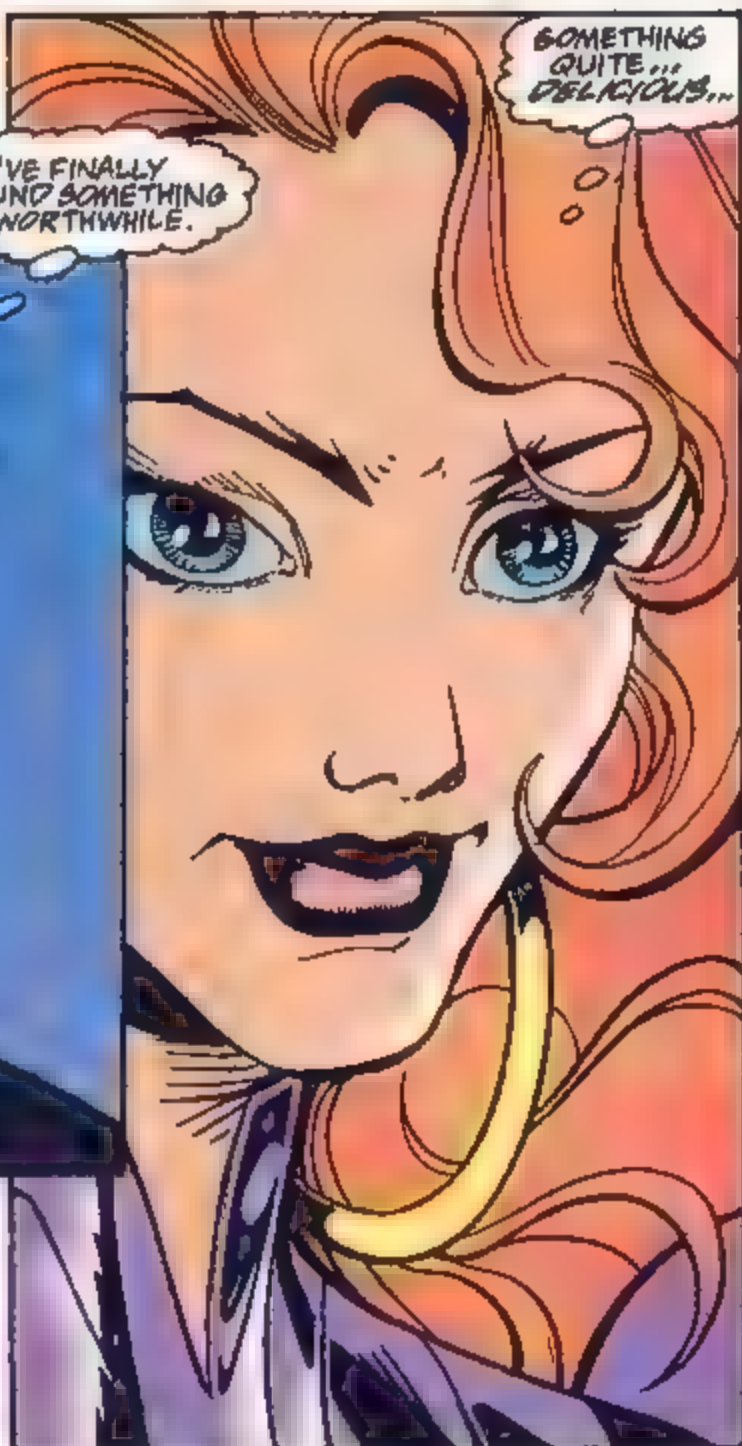
HUNGRY.
IF THAT POOL
GLONTH HADN'T
INTERFERED...



WELL...
IT SEEMS MY
PATIENCE HAS
PAID OFF.



I'VE FINALLY
FOUND SOMETHING
WORTHWHILE.



SOMETHING
QUITE...
DELICIOUS...



EVERYTHING
SEEMS QUIET.



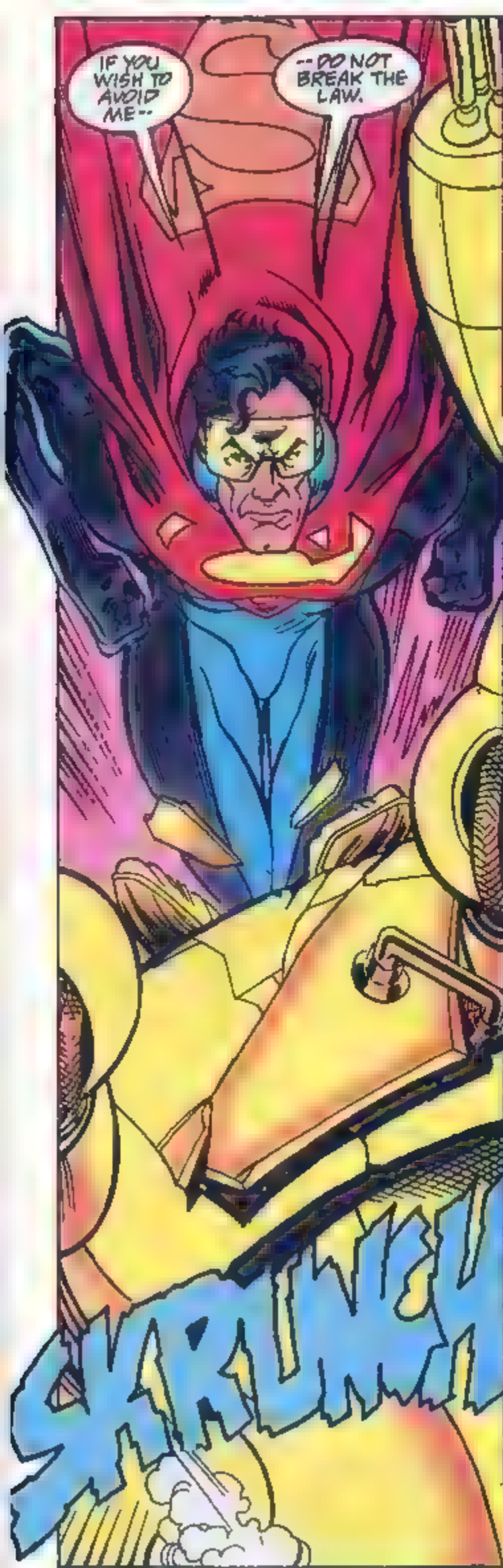
I MAY AS
WELL RETURN
TO THE
FORTRE--

NO, MY WORK
IS NOT FINISHED
YET.



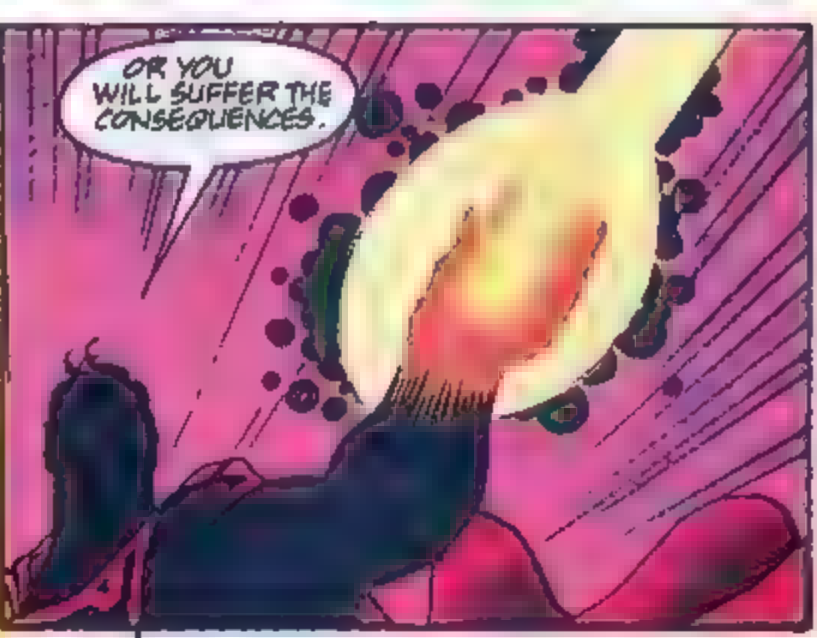
SUCCESS RATING 9.79.
ESTIMATED FINANCIAL GAIN
\$1,273,498.28.

ACTIVATE ESCAPE
ROCKETS. AVOID ANY
ENCOUNTER WITH
SUPERMAN--

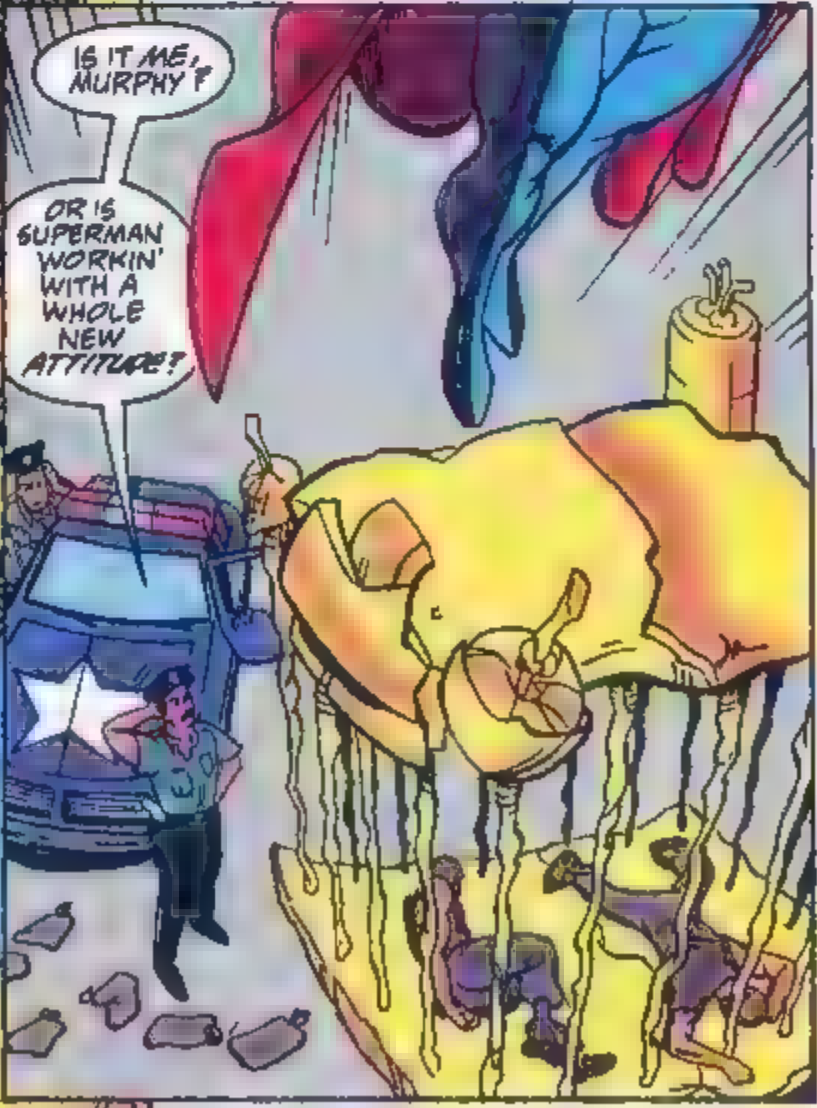


IF YOU WISH TO AVOID ME--

--DO NOT BREAK THE LAW.

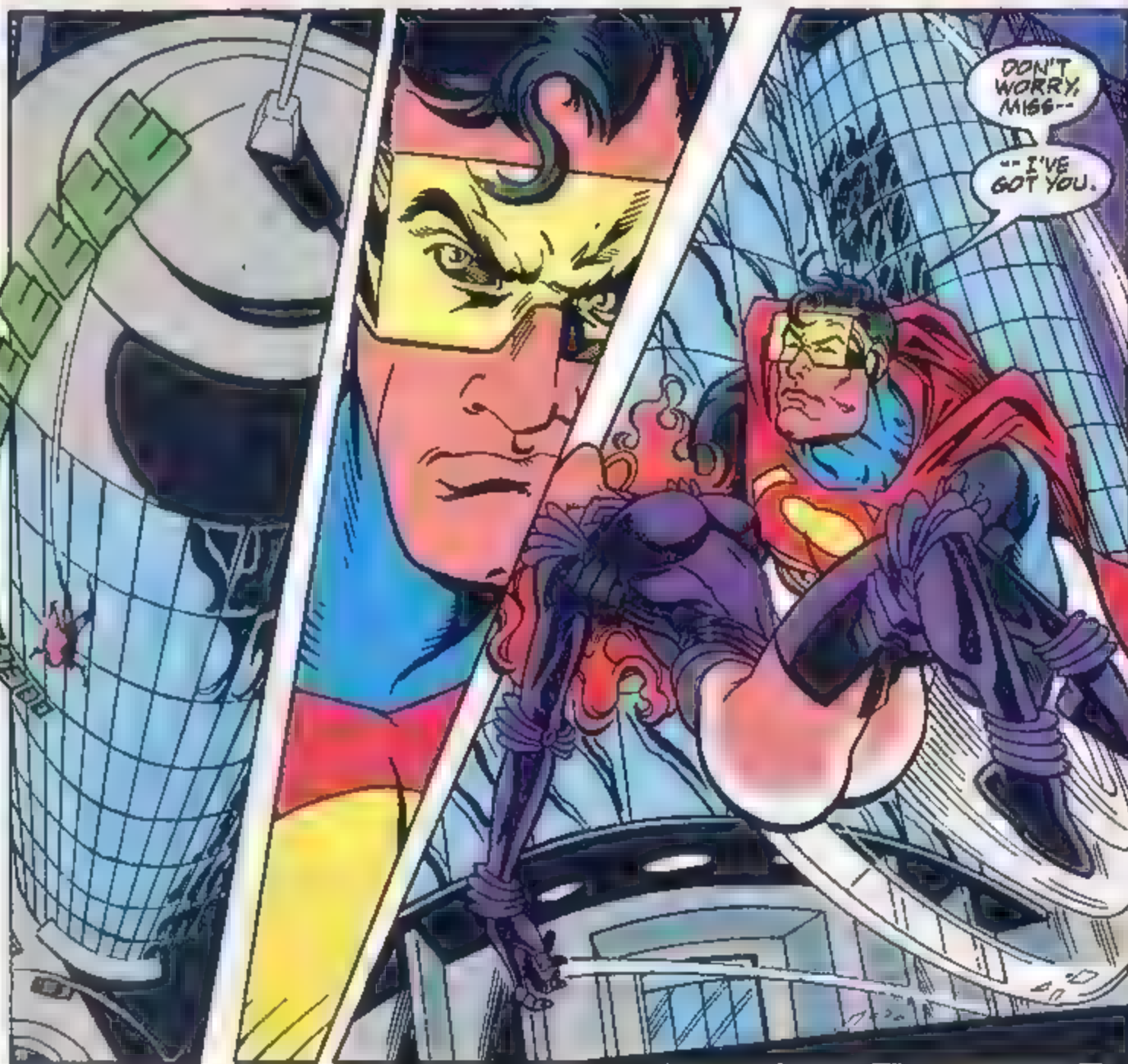
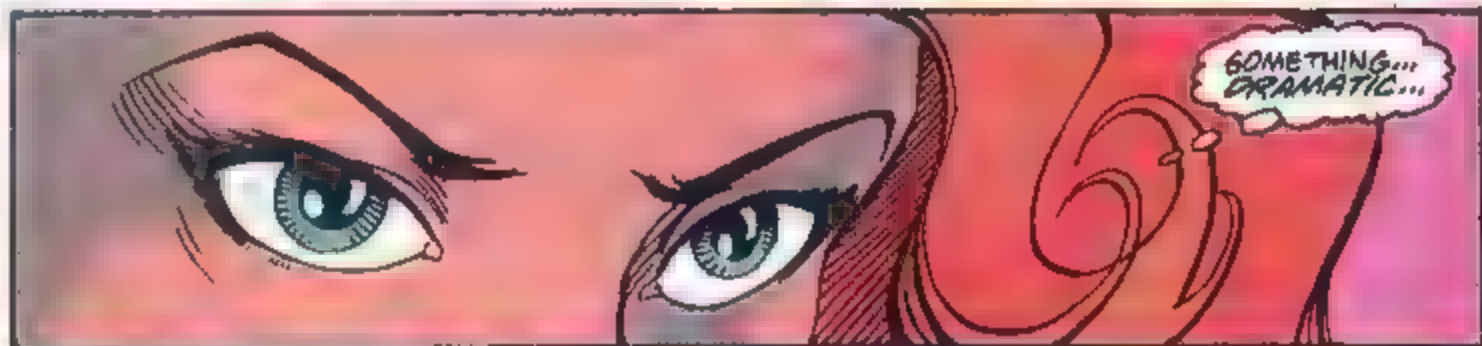


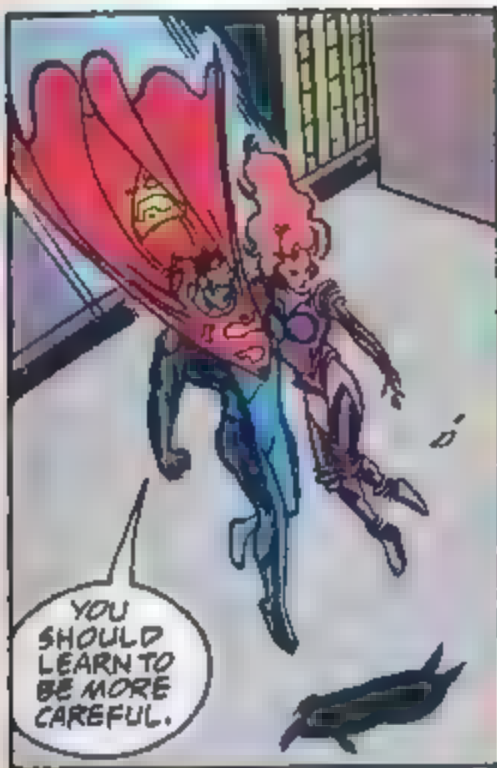
OR YOU WILL SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES.



IS IT ME, MURPHY?

OR IS SUPERMAN WORKIN' WITH A WHOLE NEW ATTITUDE?

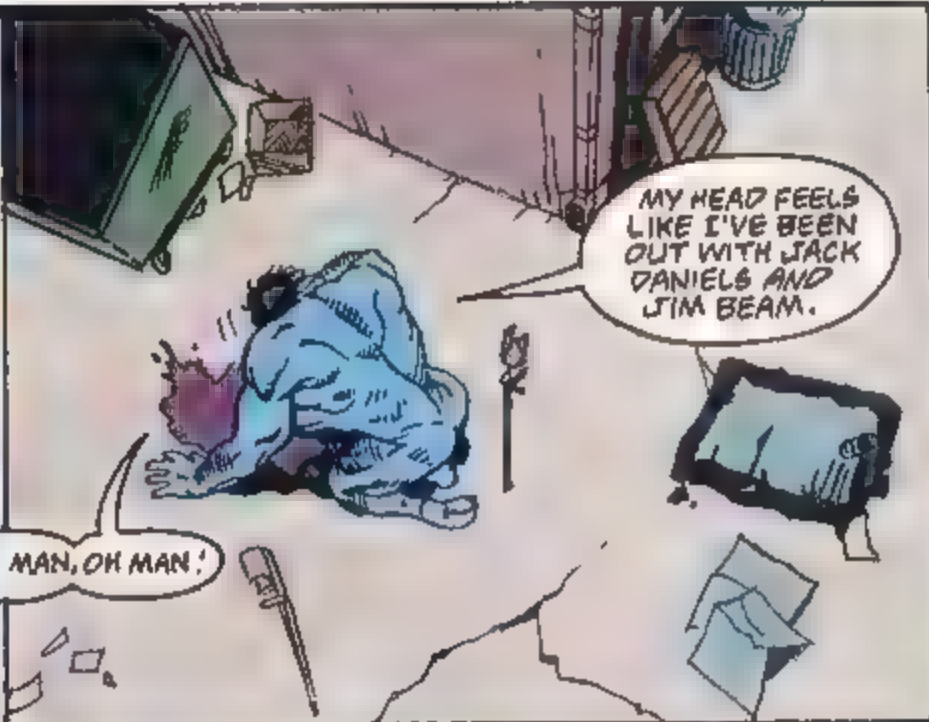








MAN, OH MAN, OH MAN, OH MAN!



MY HEAD FEELS LIKE I'VE BEEN OUT WITH JACK DANIELS AND JIM BEAM.



WHAT'S THAT-- SOME KIND OF CRUTCH?



--RRRM!

SEEMS FAMILIAR, BUT--

NOW WHAT?!

OKAY.

A PRETTY
GIRL FALLS
OUT OF THE
SKY.

THIS ISN'T
GOOD.



AND... I
DON'T KNOW
HOW OR WHY,
BUT--

-- THIS...
LADY'S GOT
SOMETHING
TO DO WITH
ME.

I'VE GOT A
BAAAAD FEELING
ABOUT THIS.

YOU
THERE!

STEP
ASIDE.

THIS WOMAN
IS NOW UNDER MY
AUTHORITY.

SEZ
YOU.



MY HEAD
FEELS LIKE
SCRAMBLED
EGGS.

AND I'M BETTIN'
I DIDN'T GET UP THIS
MORNING SEVEN FEET
TALL AND BLUE.

SO SOMEBODY'S
GOT A HELLUVA LOT
OF EXPLAININ'
TO DO!



LOOK, I DON'T KNOW YOU.

I CAN'T REMEMBER A WHOLE LOT.

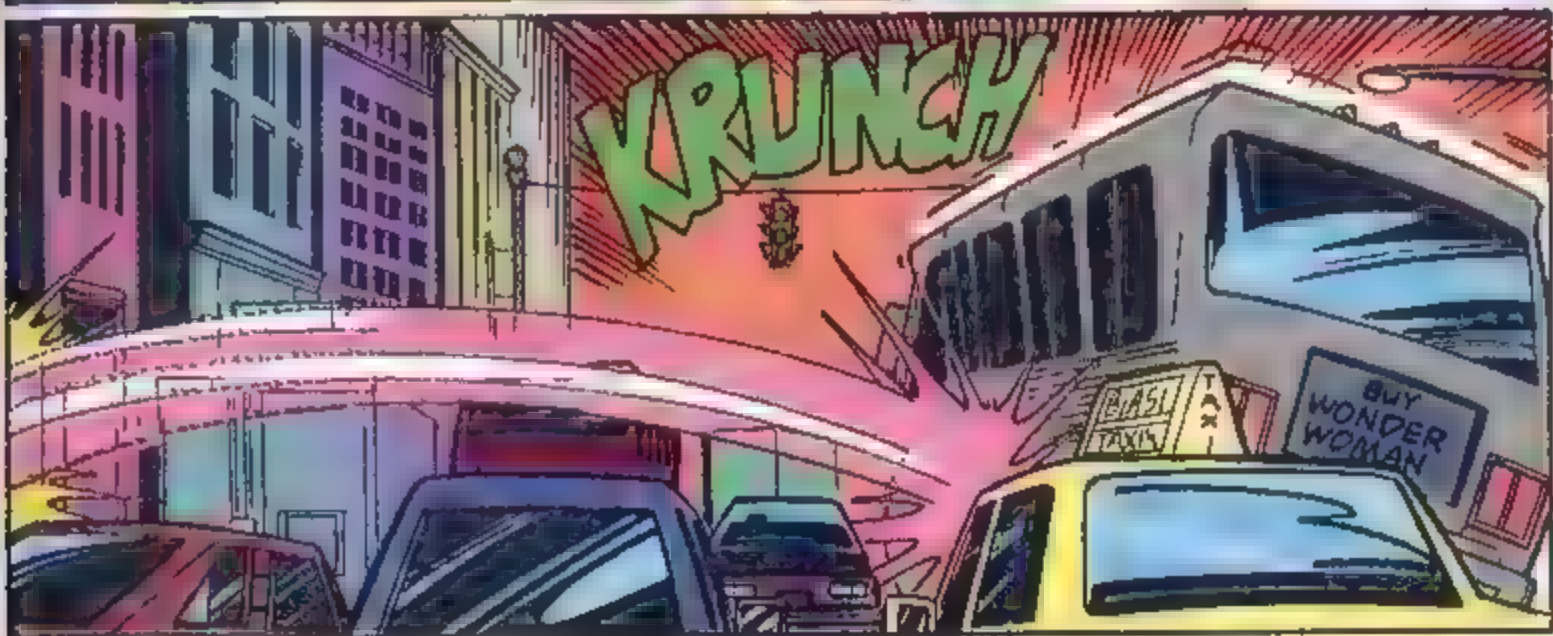
BUT, I'VE GOT A FEELING THAT THIS GIRL HAS SOME OF THE ANSWERS--

--SO YOU CAN'T HAVE HER.

I HAD NO QUARREL WITH YOU, CREATURE.



BUT I WILL NOT SHY AWAY FROM ONE NOW.

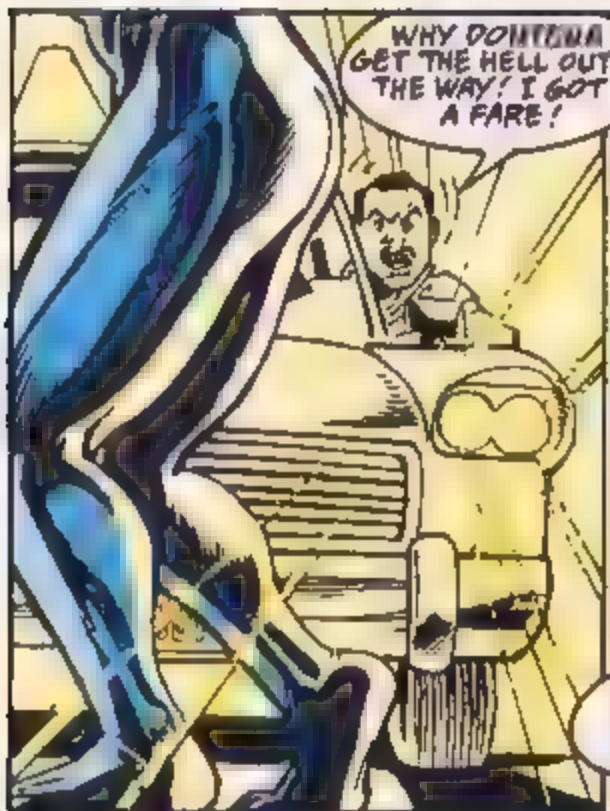


ACROSS THE STREET.

INTO A BUS.

AND I'M STILL ALIVE.

THIS IS DIFFERENT.



WHY DON'T NA
GET THE HELL OUT OF
THE WAY! I GOT
A FARE!



WHY
DON'T
YOU--



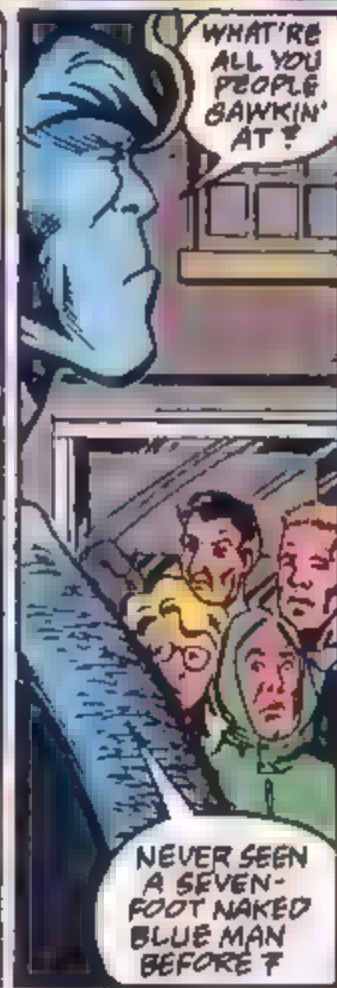
--SHUT--

KUNTCH!



PLEASE
DON'T KILL
ME PLEASE
DON'T KILL
ME.

--UP!

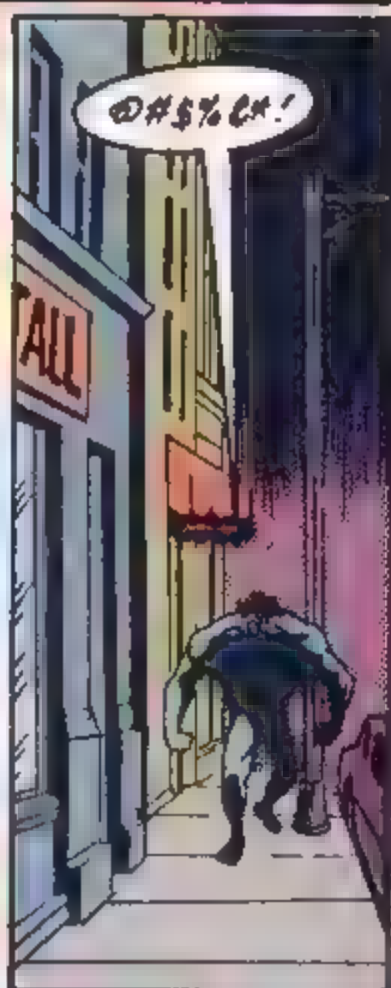


WHAT'RE
ALL YOU
PEOPLE
SAWKIN'
AT?

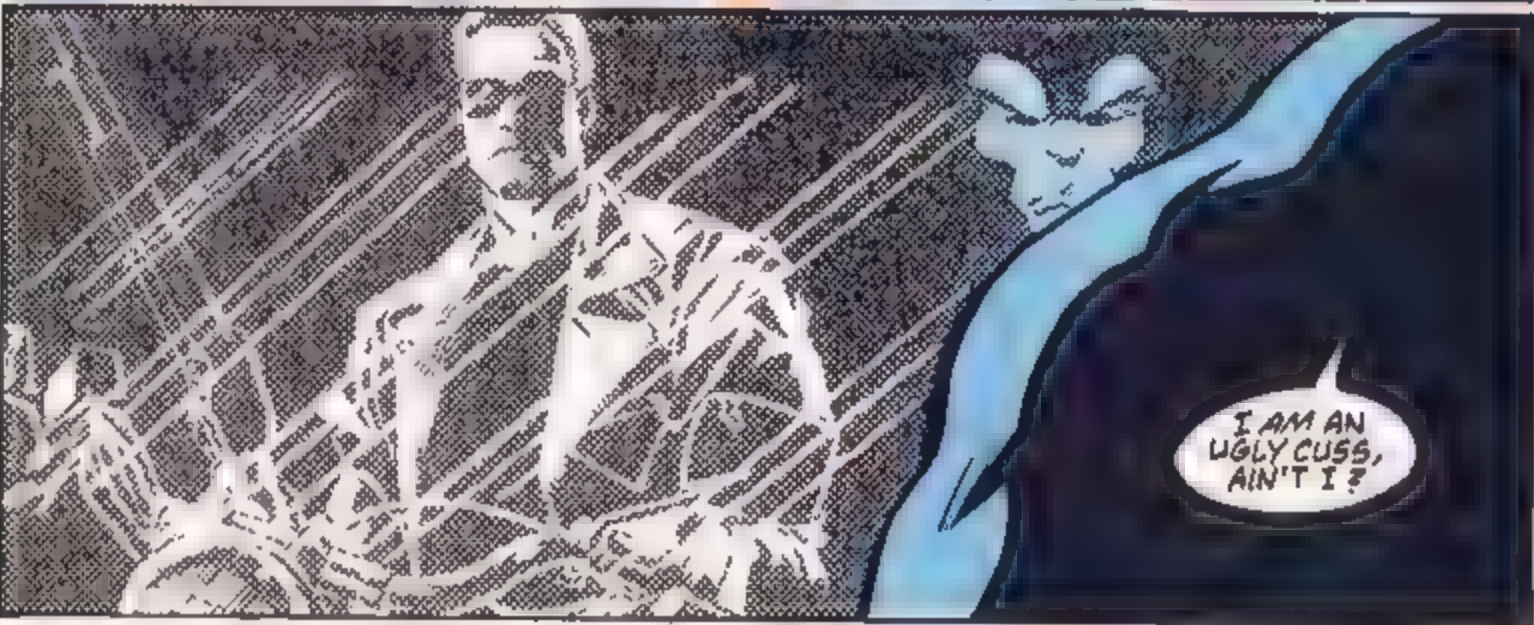
NEVER SEEN
A SEVEN-
FOOT
NAKED
BLUE MAN
BEFORE?



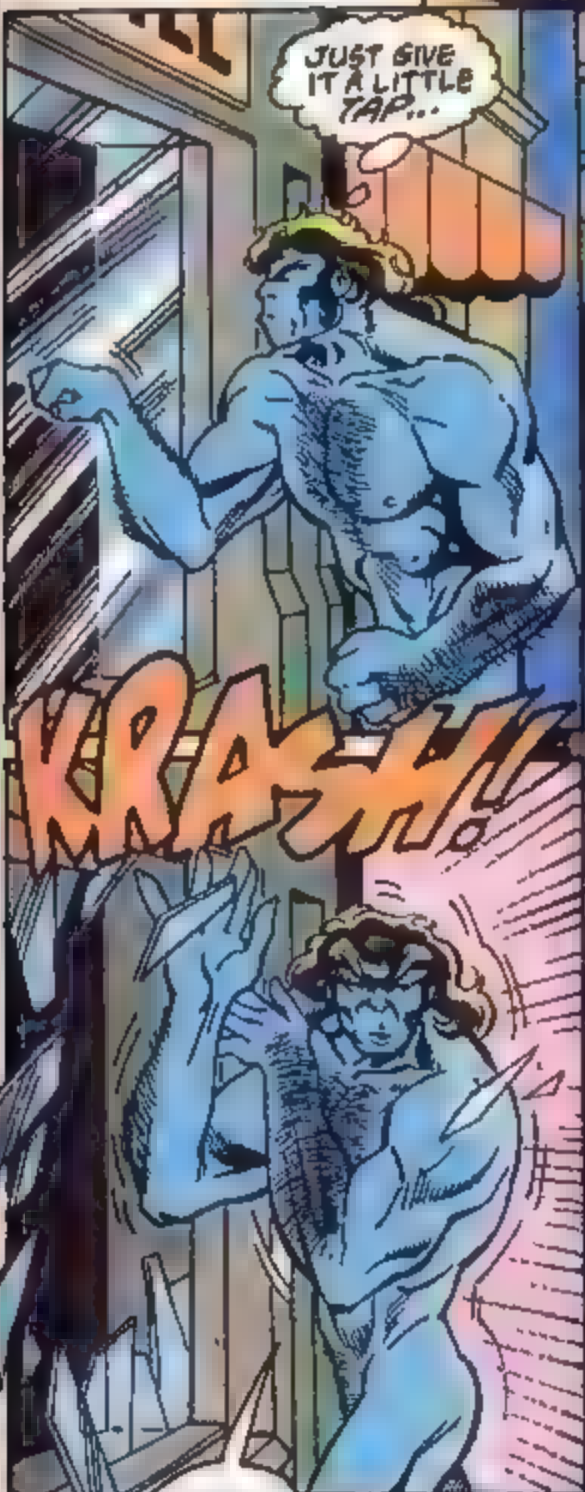
NAKED?!



OH SHIT!



I AM AN
UGLY CUSS,
AIN'T I?

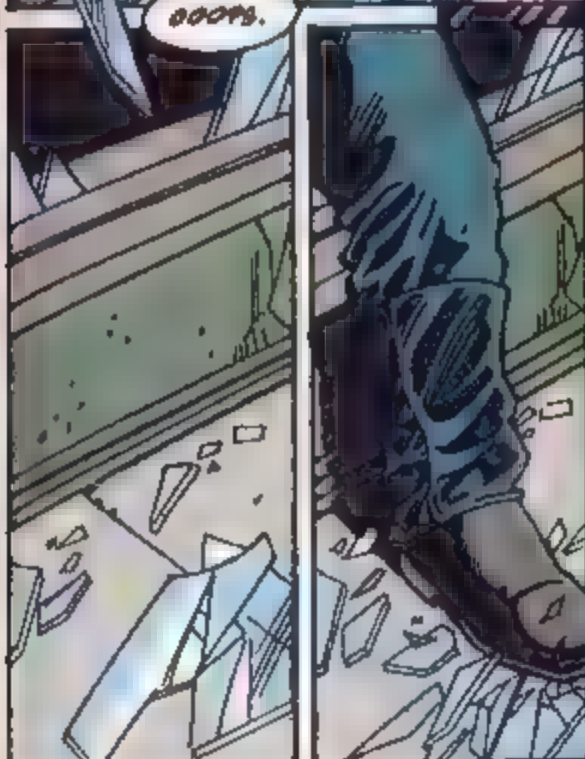


JUST GIVE
IT A LITTLE
TAP...

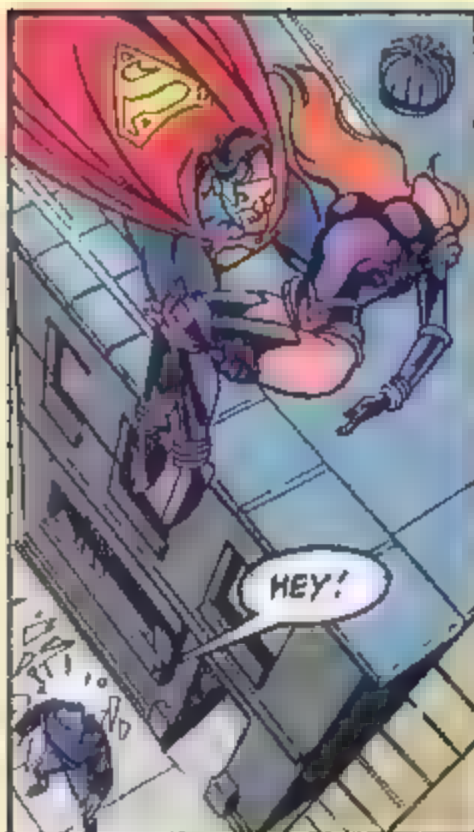
KRAASH!



OOOPS.



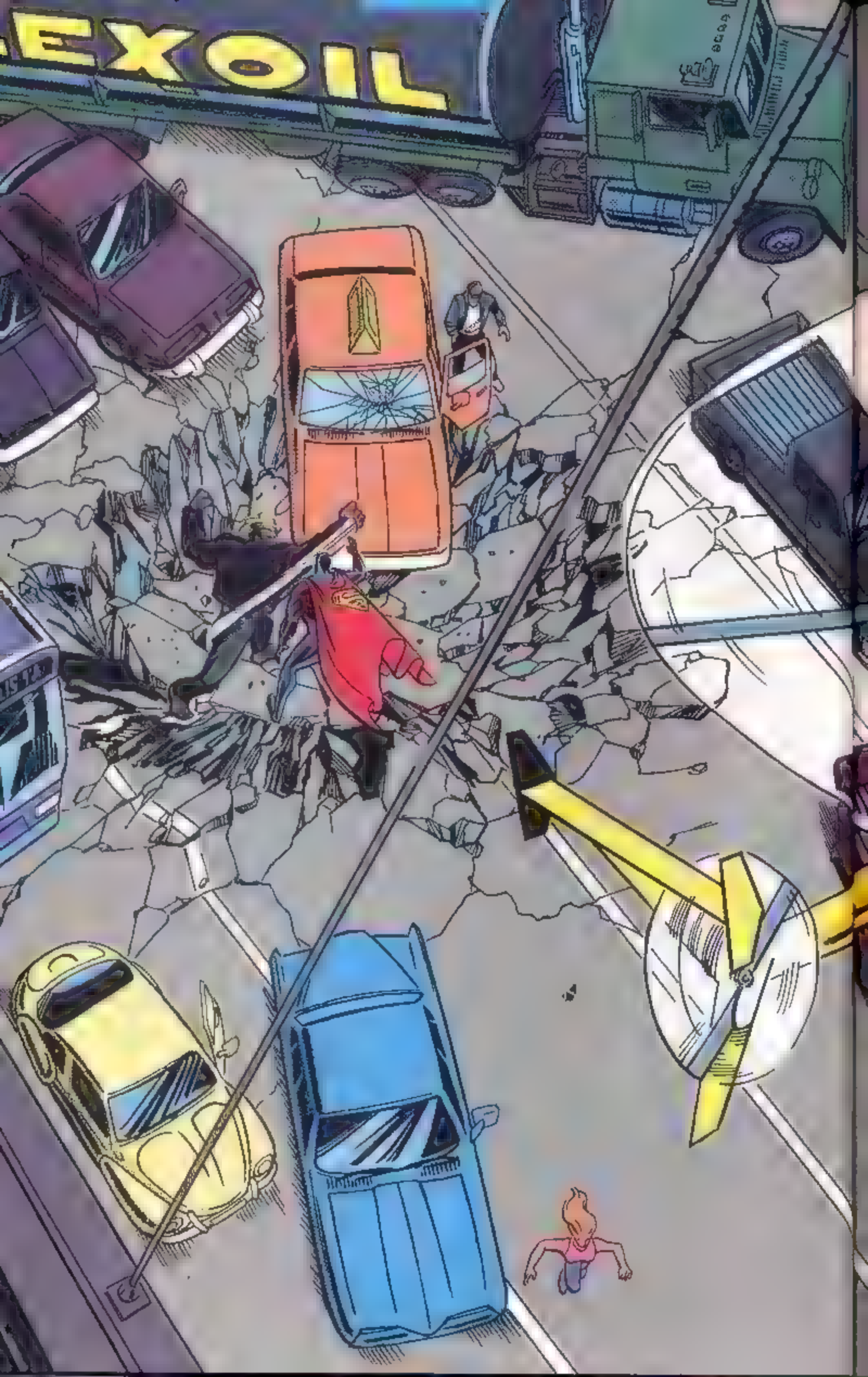
NOW LET'S
SEE WHAT I
CAN DO!



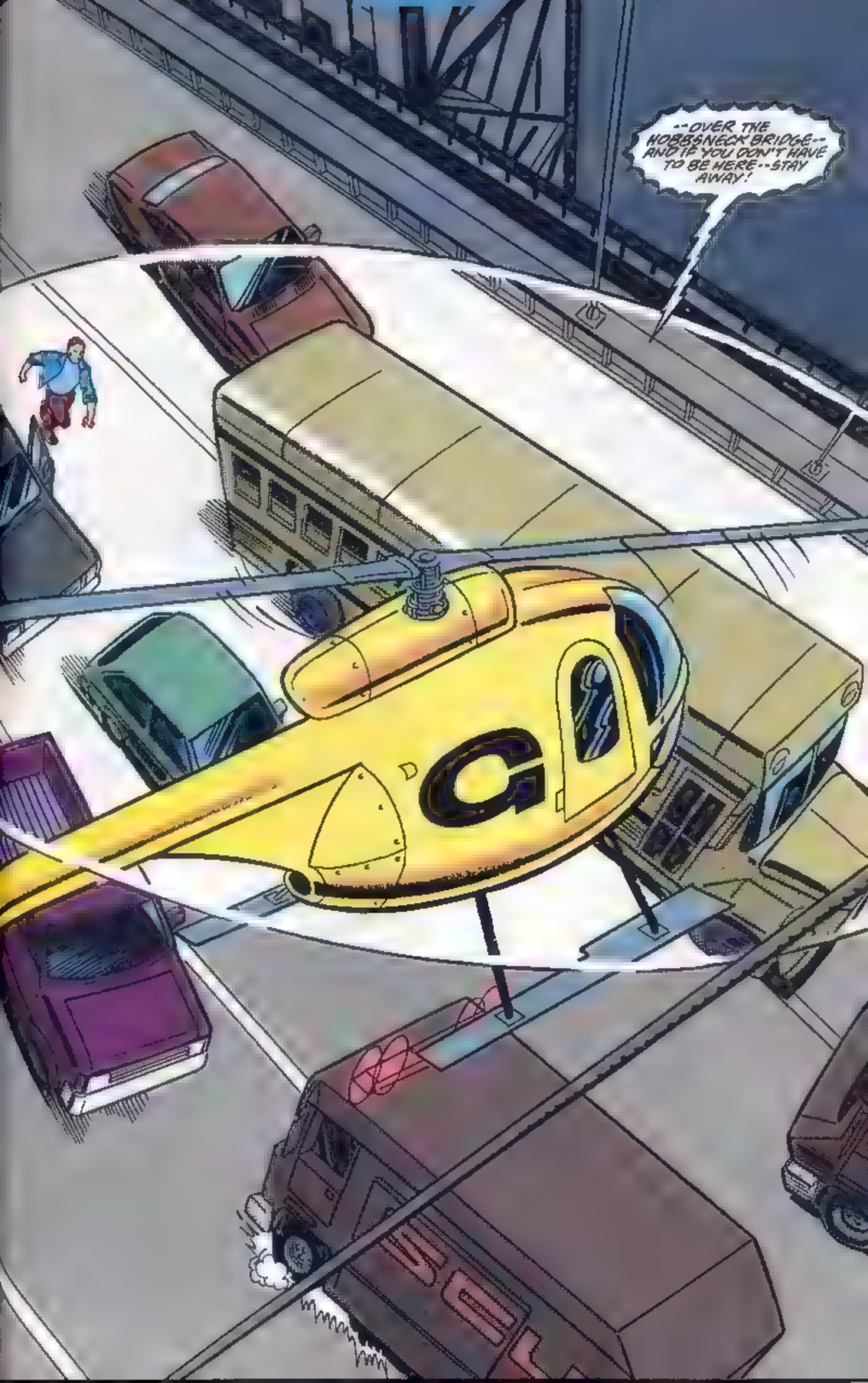
YOU
DROPPED
THE GIRL!?

MAN, I'M GONNA
MAKE YOUR LIFE
MISERABLE.

THRABAKOON!









THE S.C.U. IS ON THE SCENE-- IT'S A WARZONE DOWN THERE!

WE HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS SINCE... WELL... DOOMSDAY!



LEX, COULD IT--?

COULD THAT MONSTER BE ANOTHER DOOMSDAY?

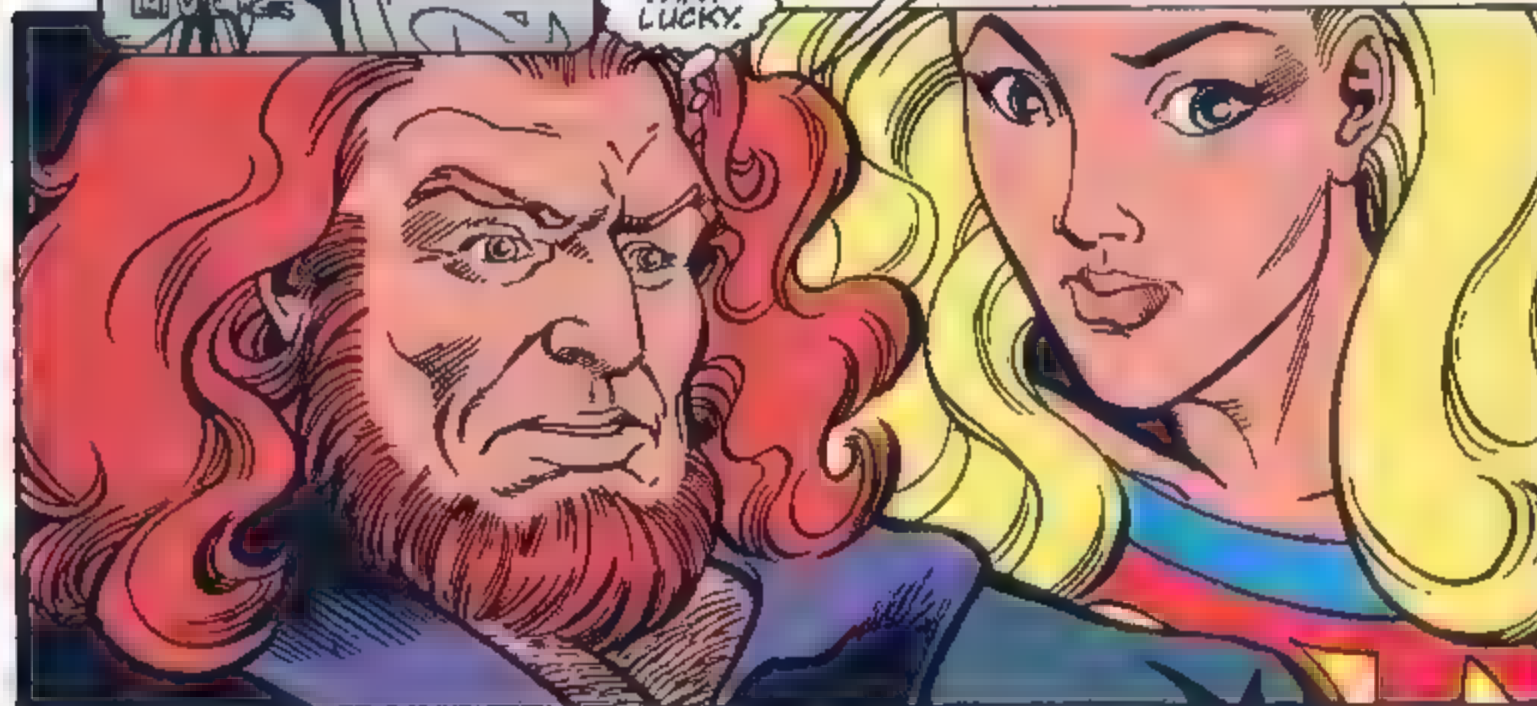


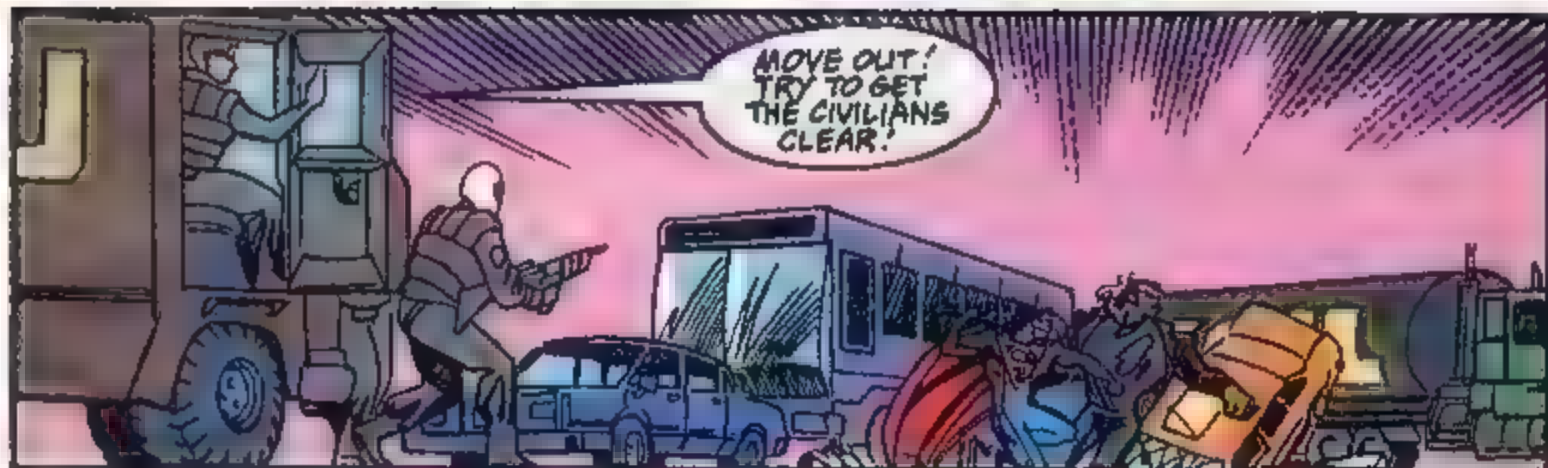
NO, MY LOVE, THAT SORT OF TRAGIC CIRCUMSTANCE RARELY HAPPENS TWICE.

AND I COULD NEVER BE THAT LUCKY.

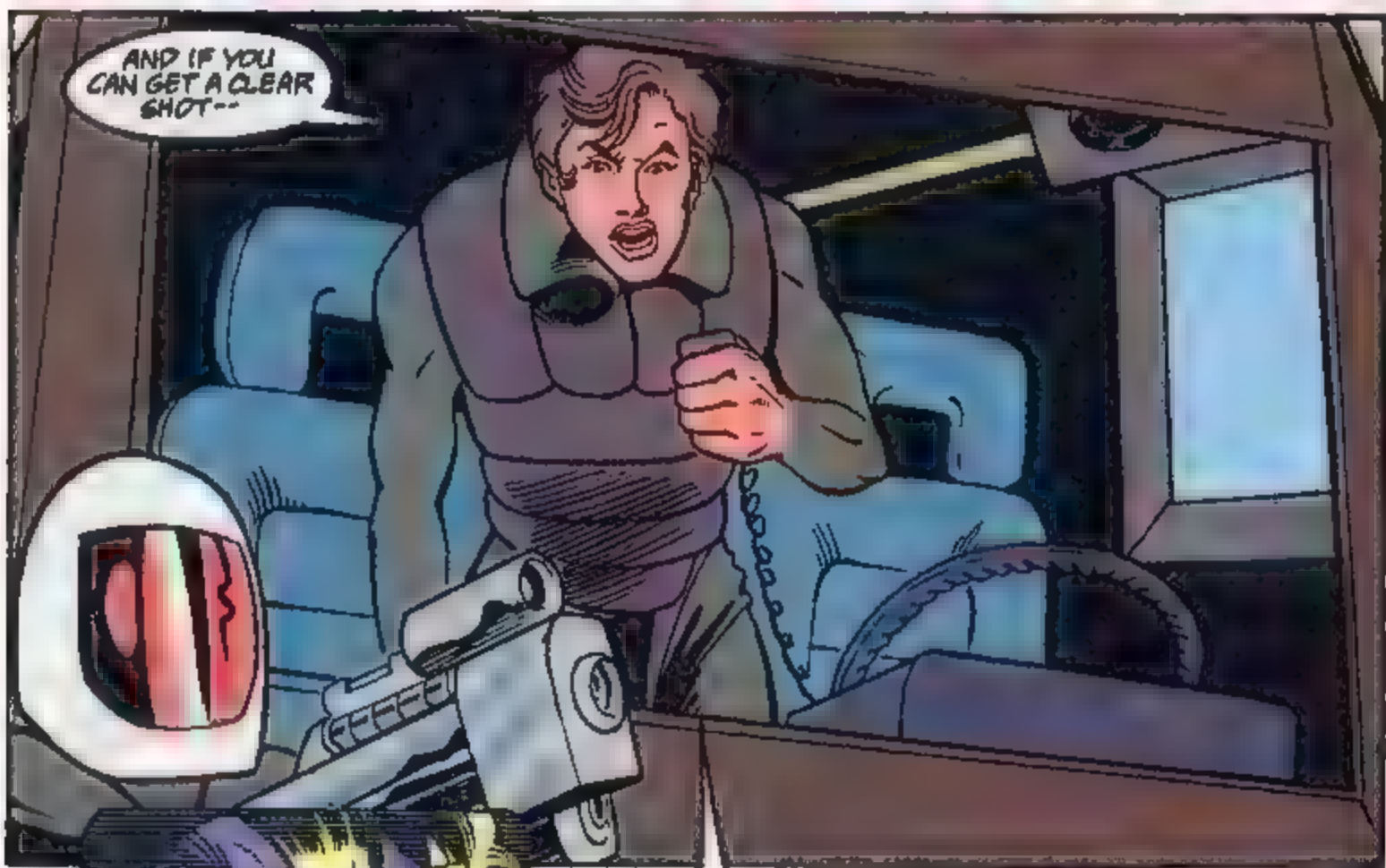
BUT WE SHOULD BE READY AND WILLING TO GIVE THIS SUPERMAN A HAND--

--IF AND WHEN HE NEEDS IT.

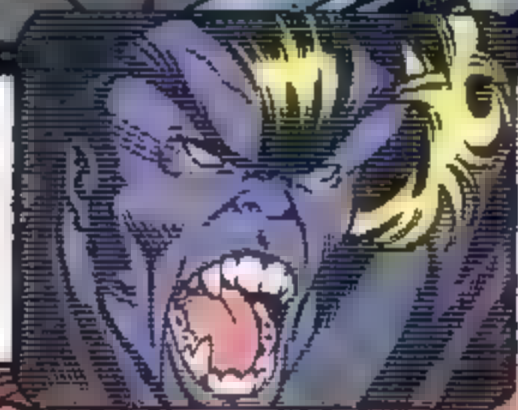




MOVE OUT!
TRY TO GET
THE CIVILIANS
CLEAR!



AND IF YOU
CAN GET A CLEAR
SHOT--

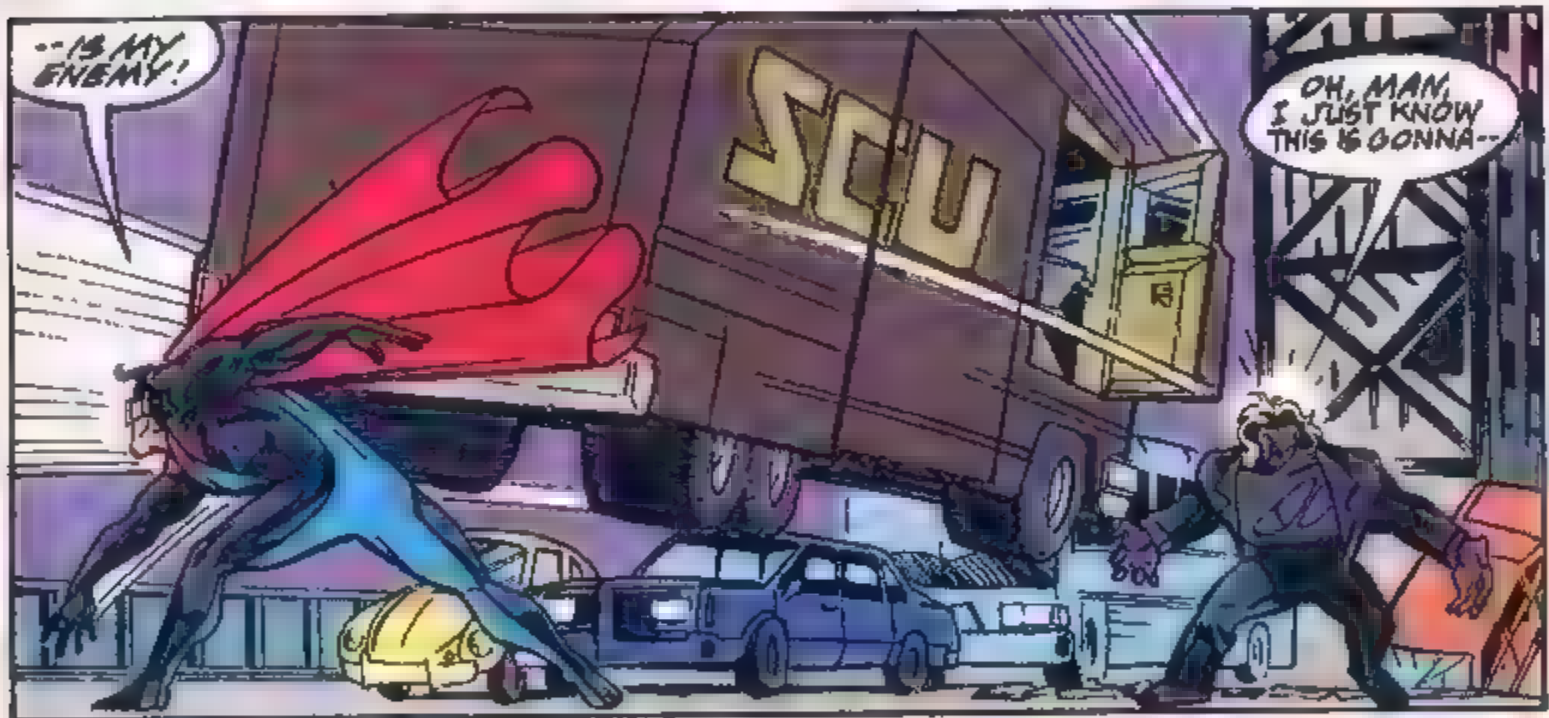
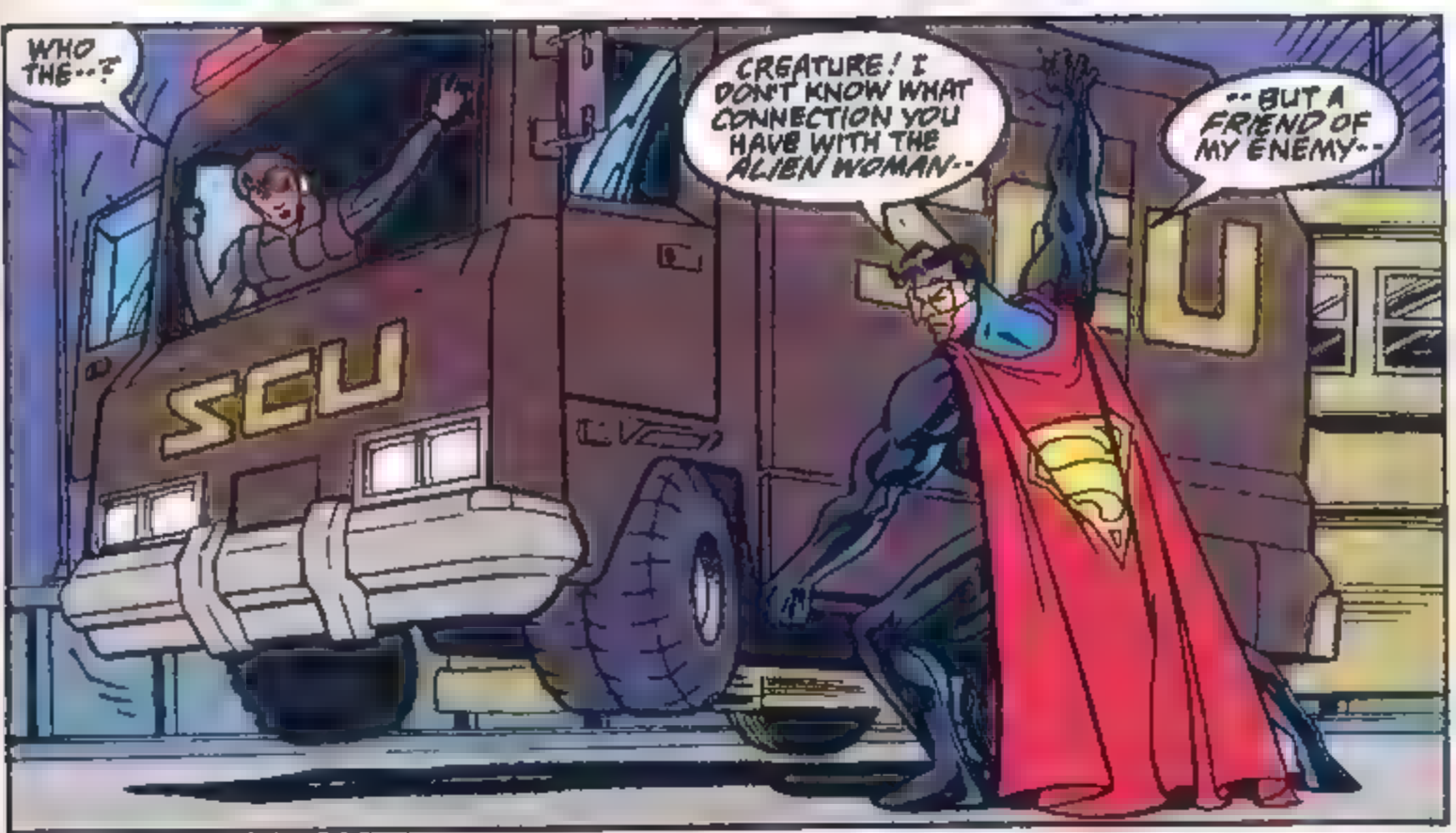


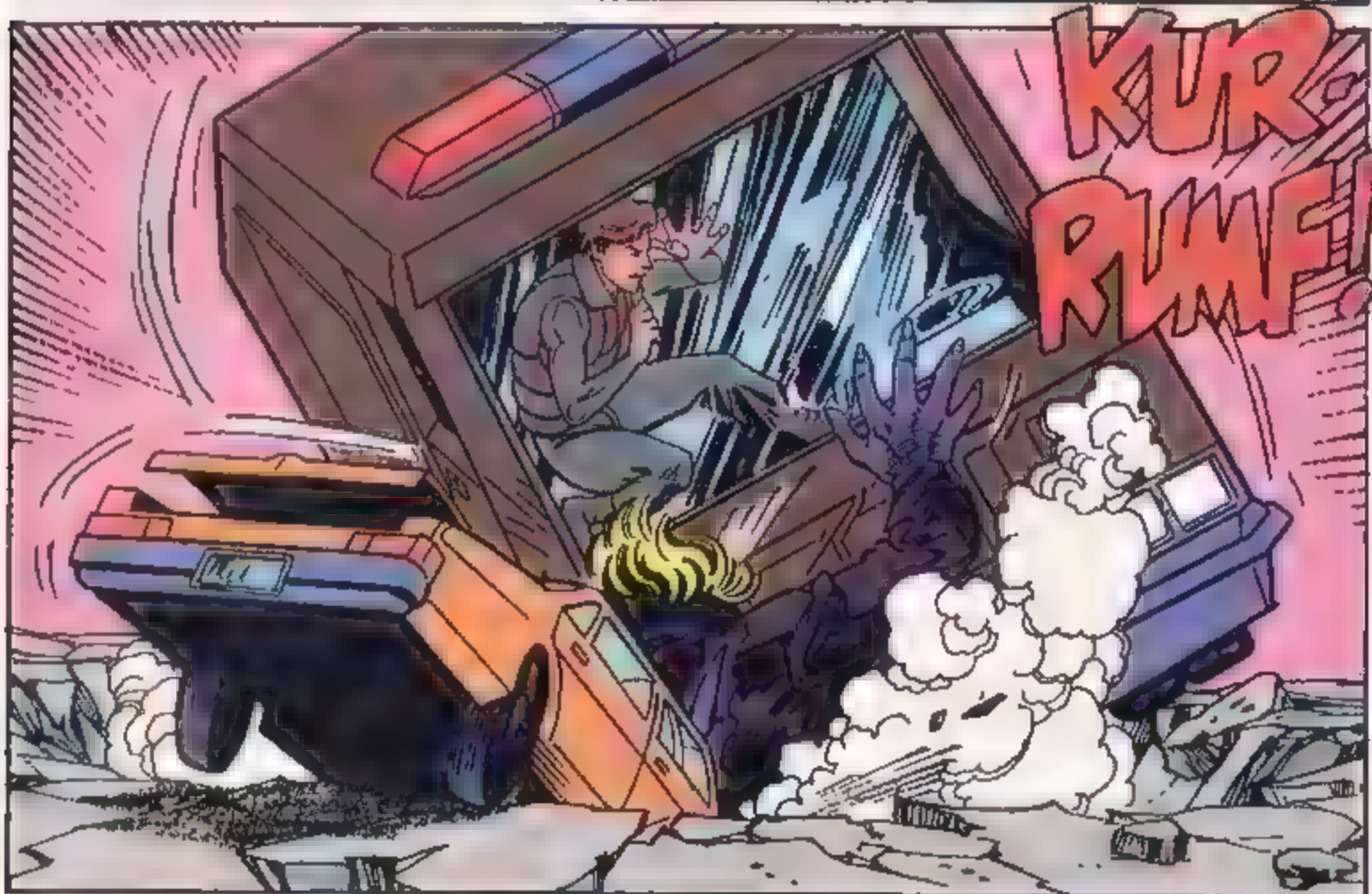
TAKE
OUT THAT--
THING!

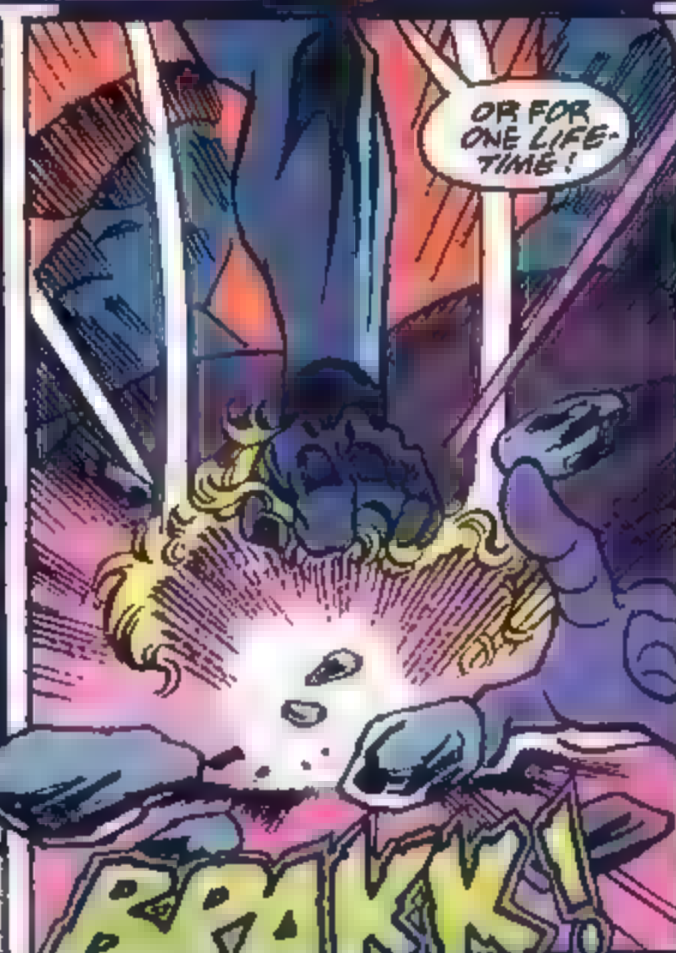
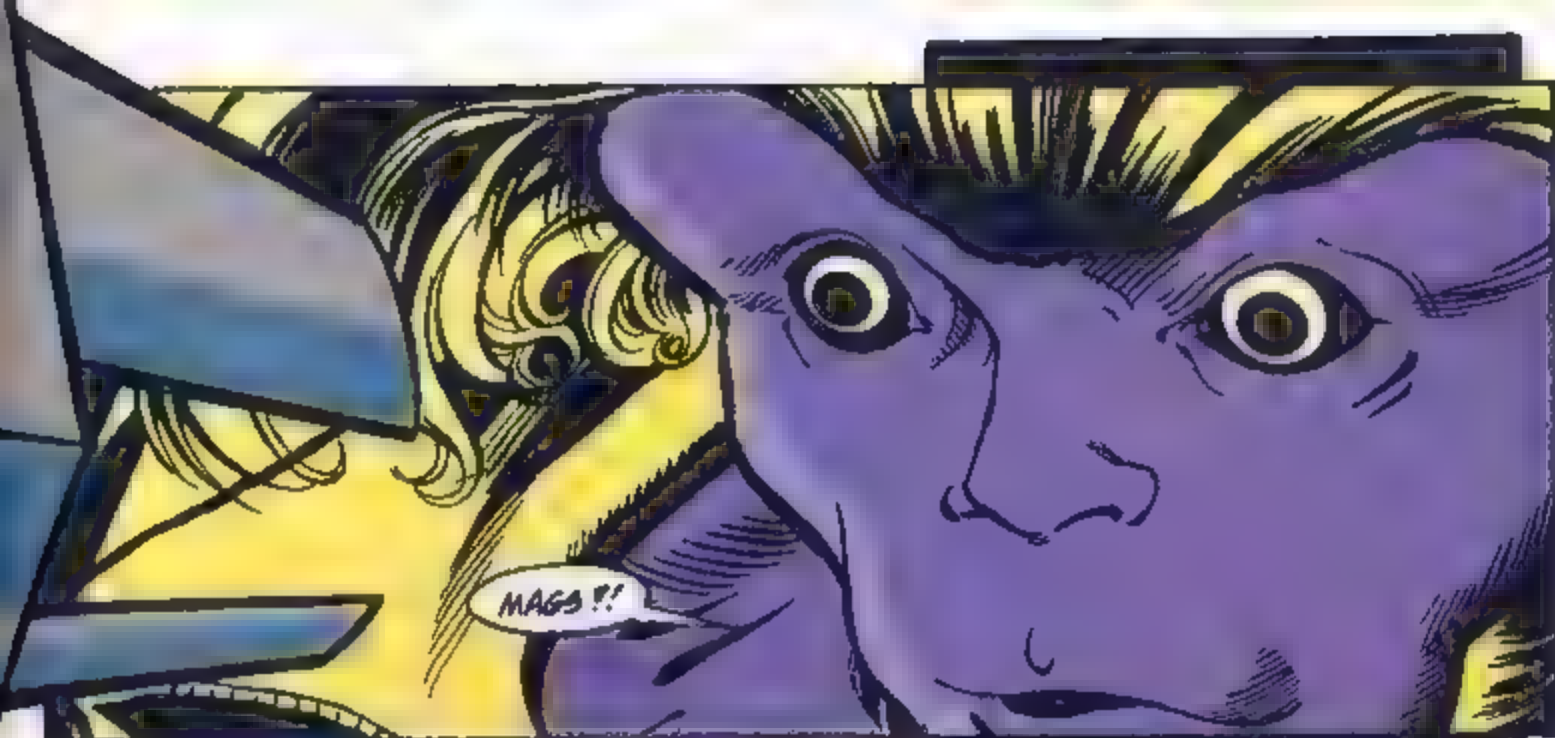


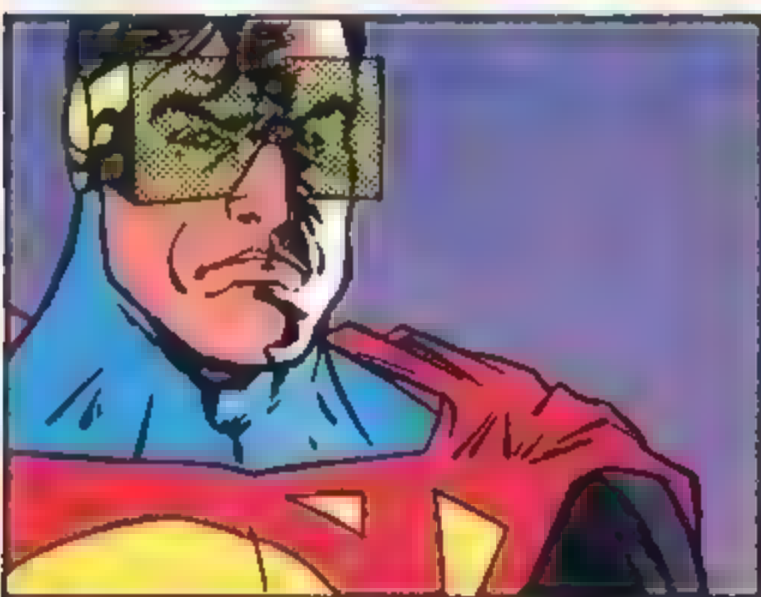
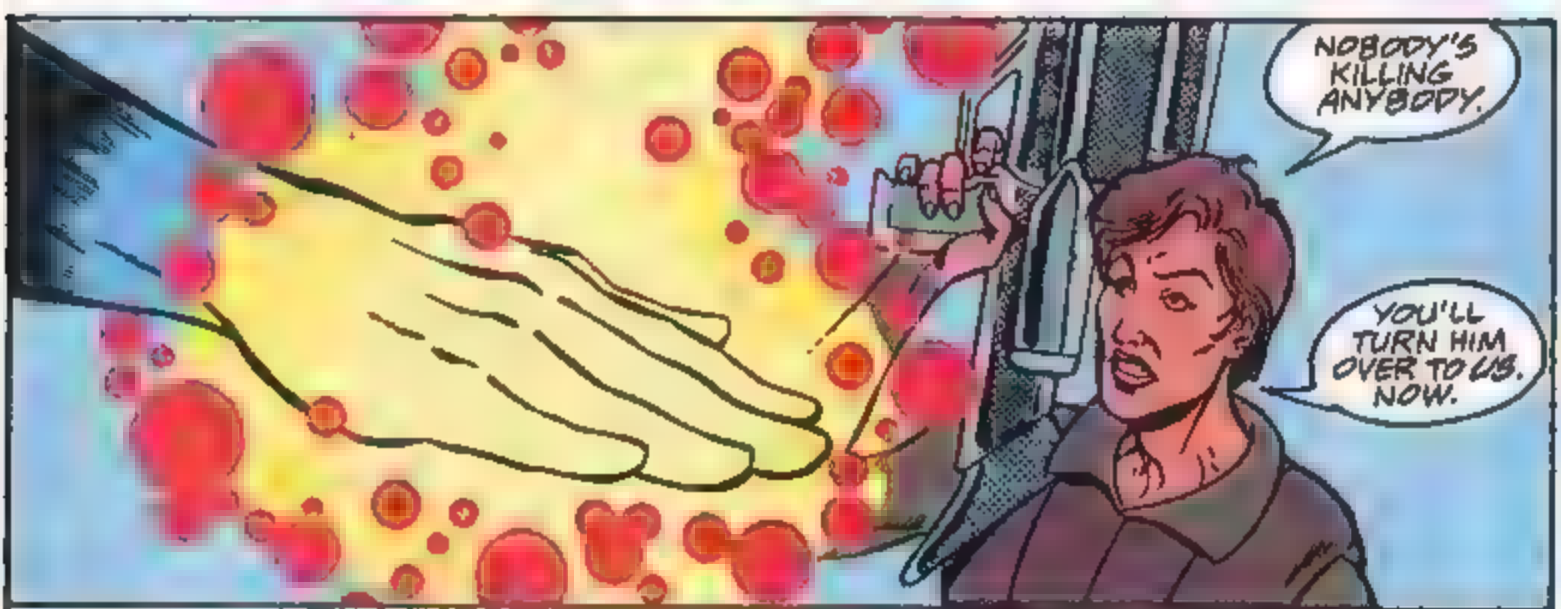
BEFORE IT TAKES
HOBBYNECK BRIDGE
OUT AGAIN. *

*SEE ADVENTURES OF
SUPERMAN #502





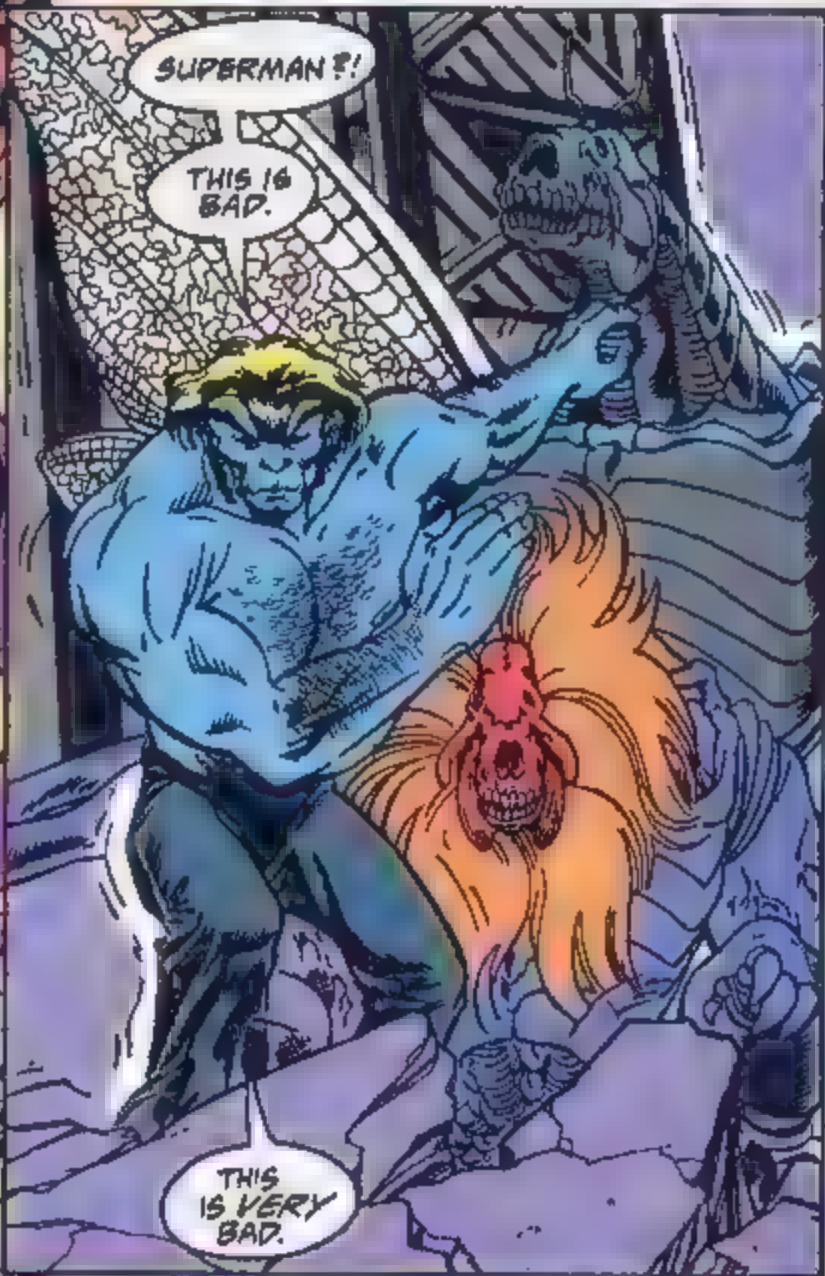
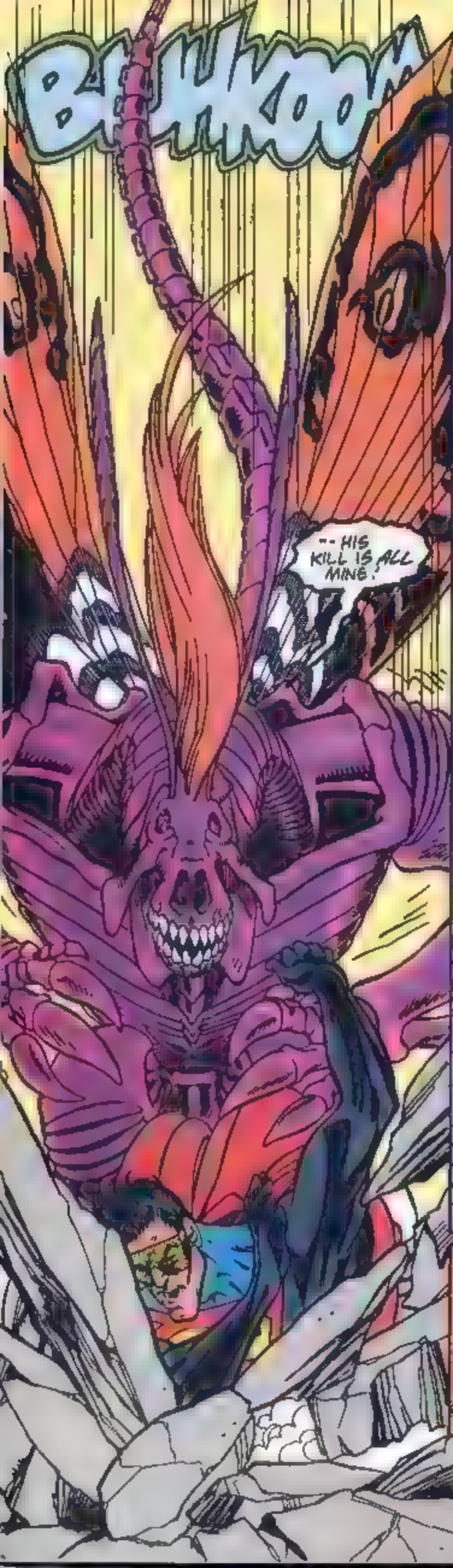






DO WHAT
YOU WANT WITH
THE OTHER ONE,
PRITOR...

... BUT, MAKE NO
MISTAKE ABOUT THIS
"SUPERMAN"...





I
REMEMBER
NOW!

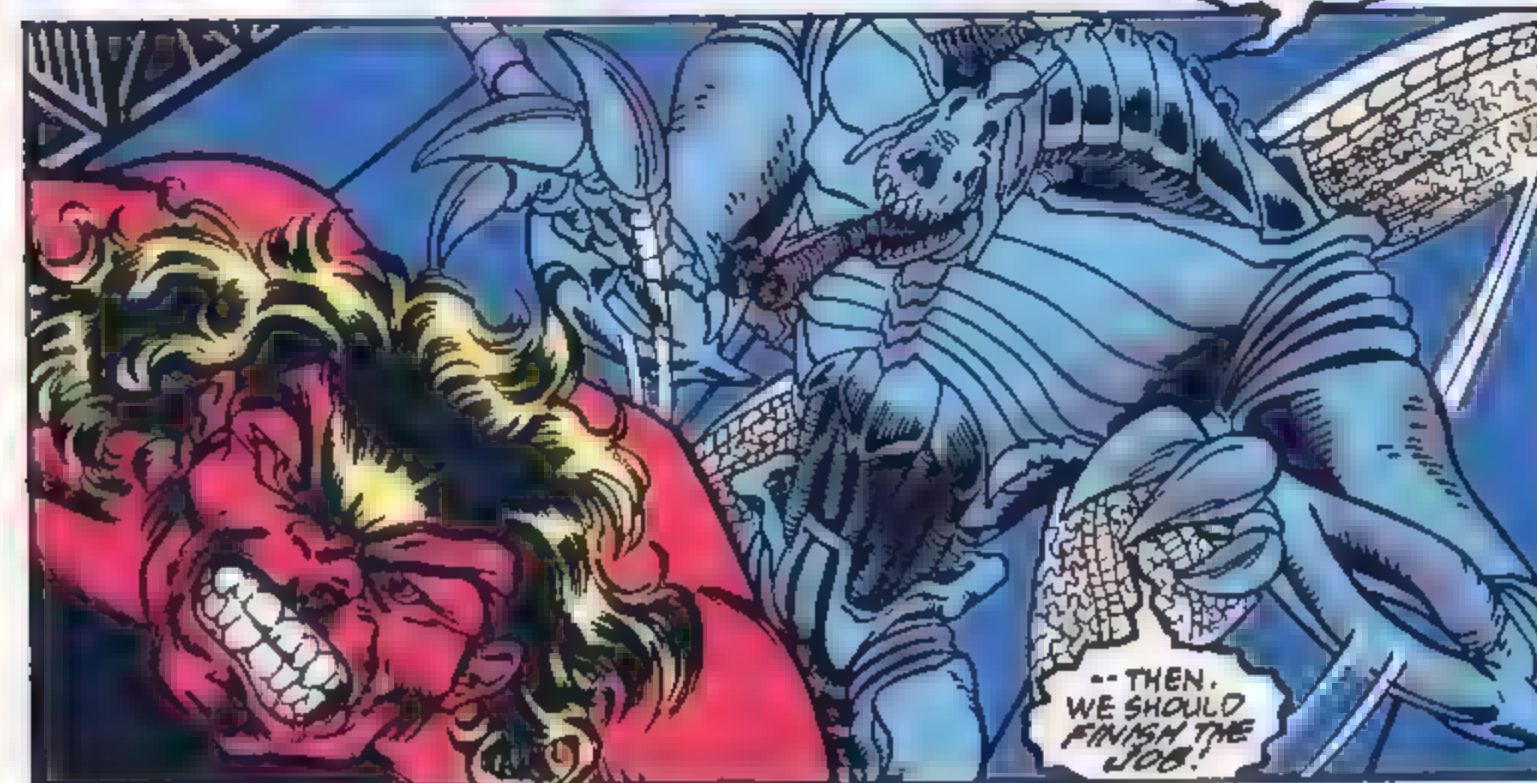
YOU LEFT ME
FOR DEAD IN THAT
ALLEY.

JUST LIKE
ALL THE OTHER
KILLINGS!

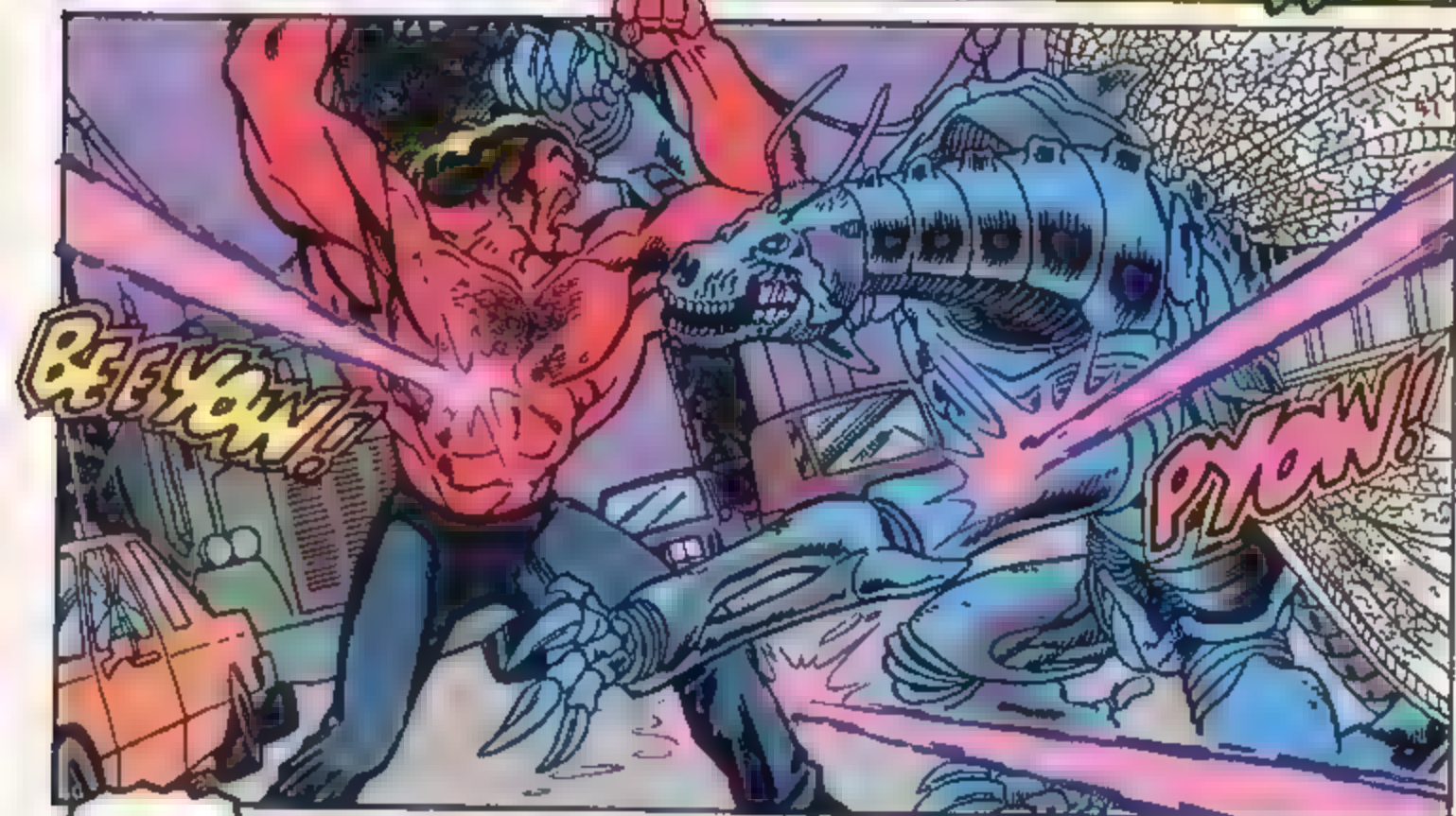
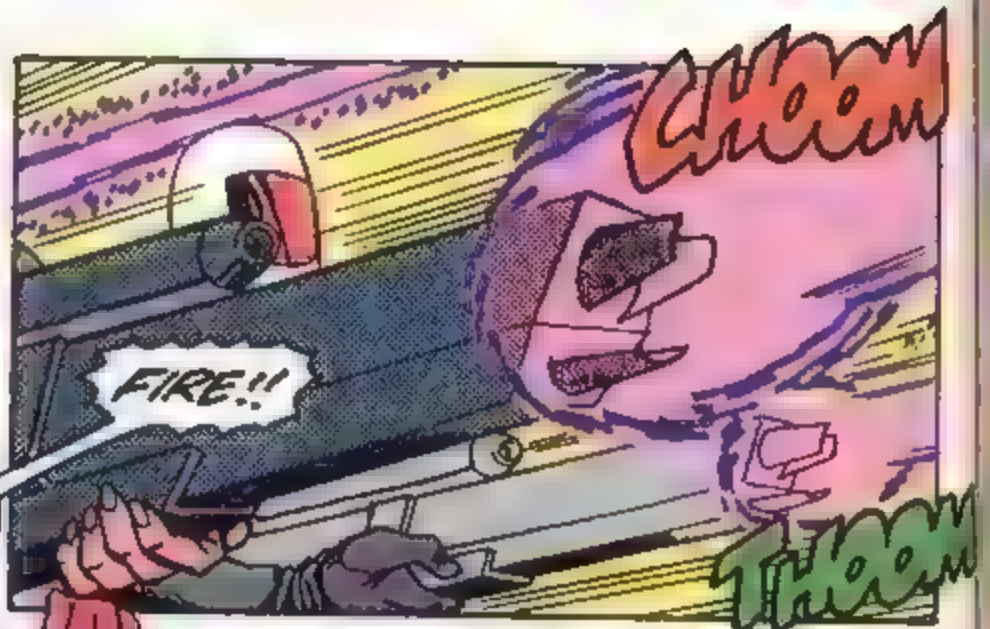


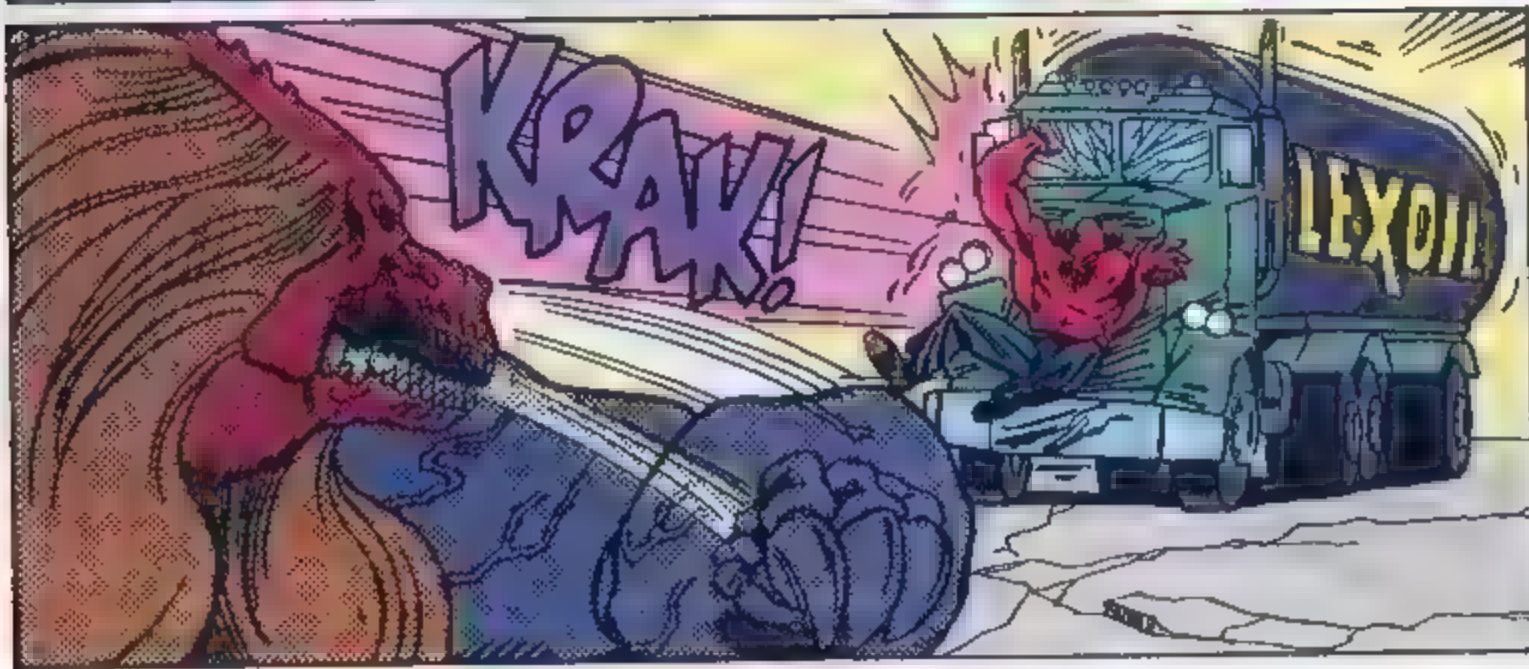
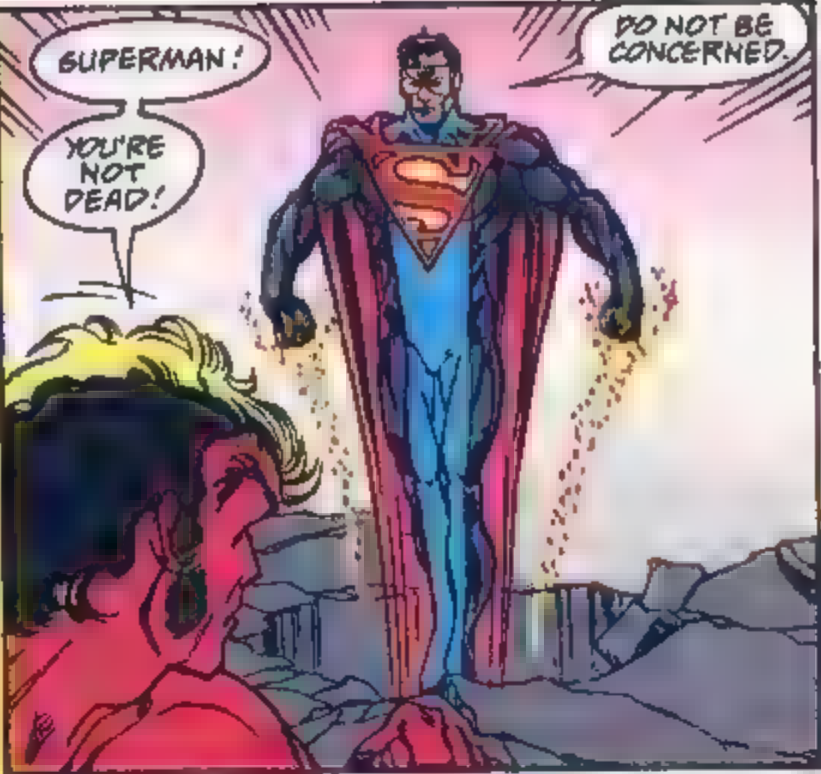
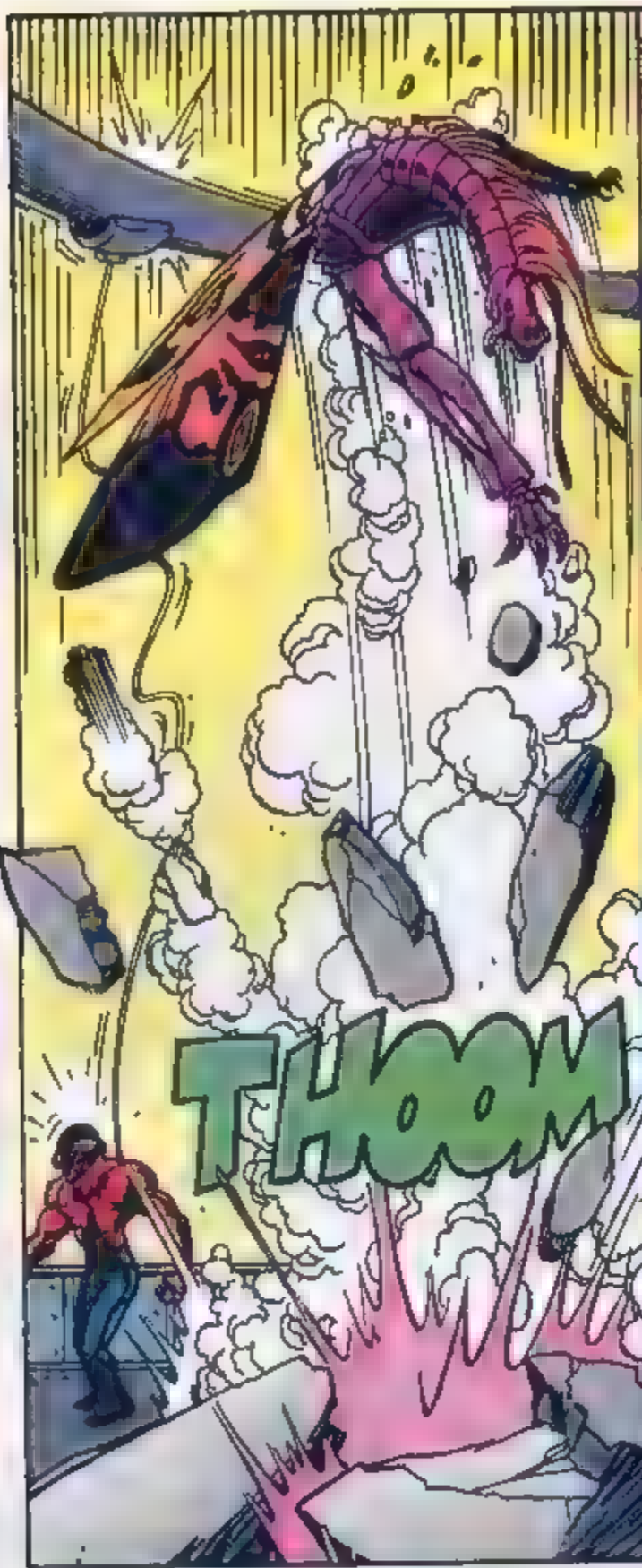
K-K-KRAK!!

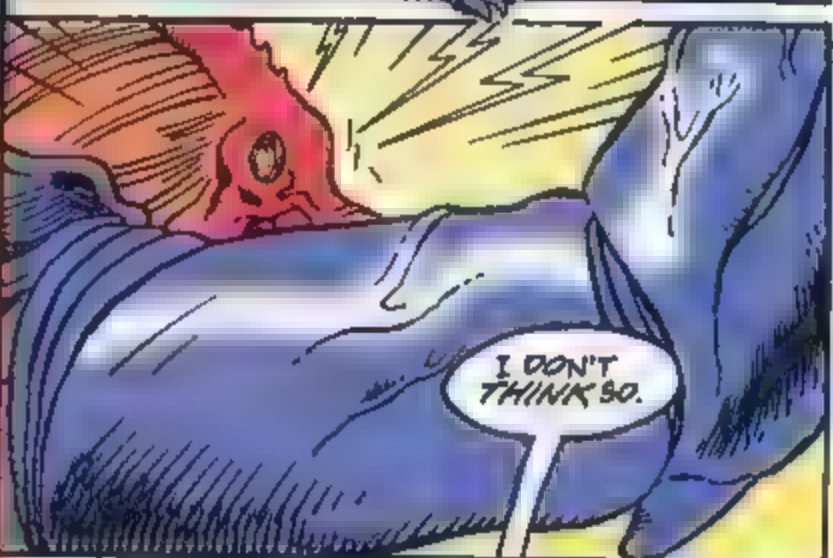
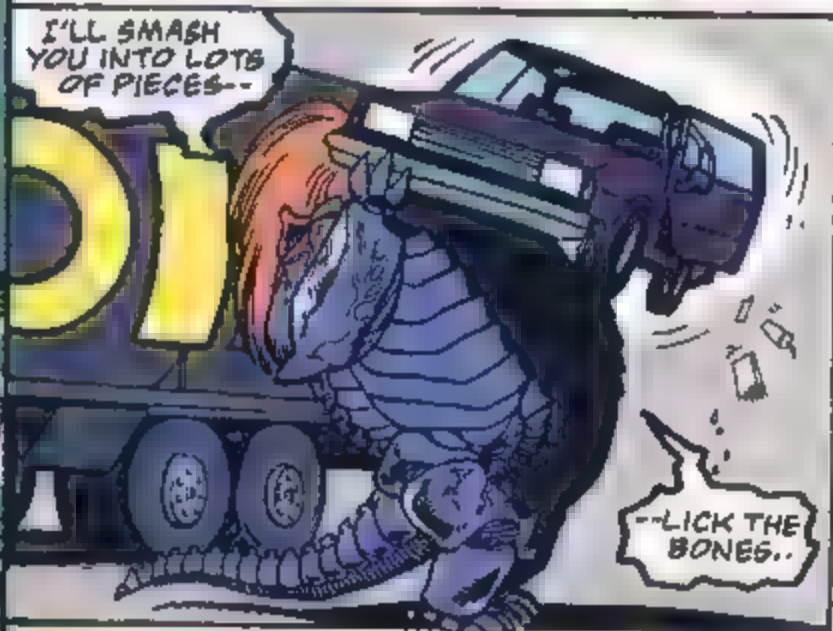
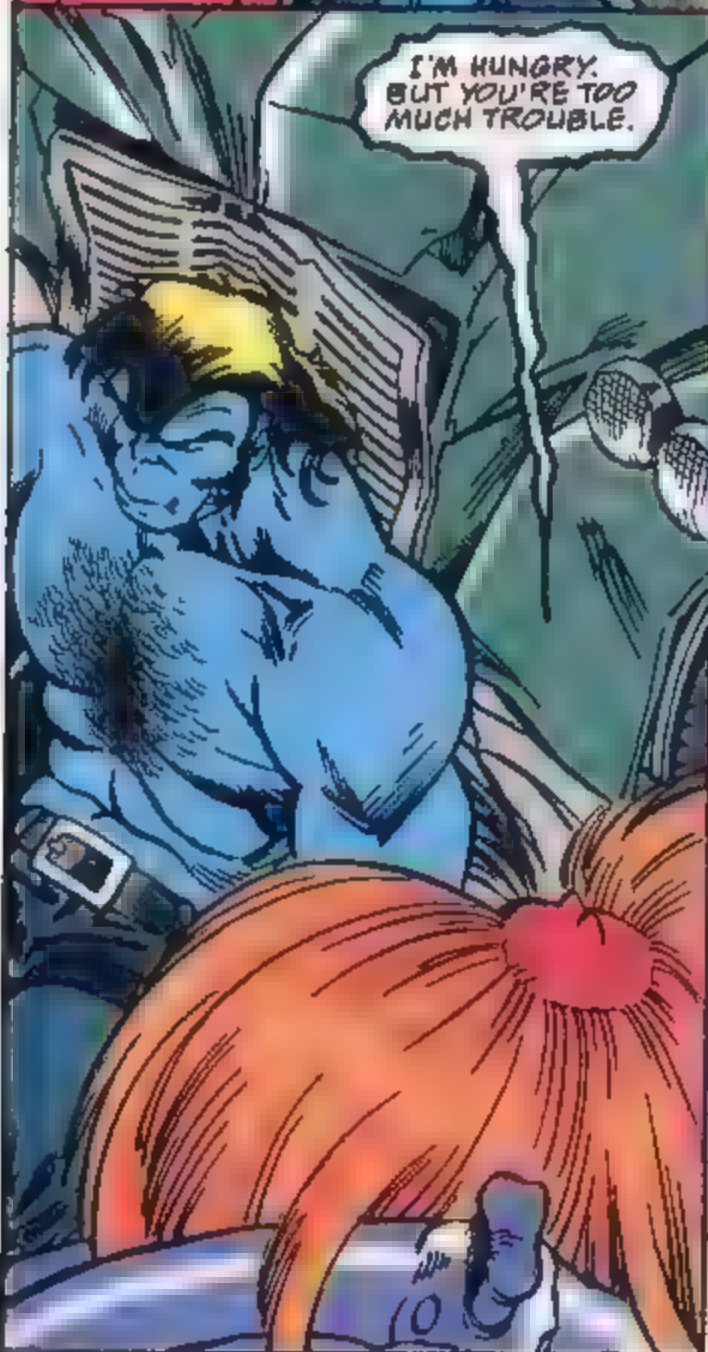
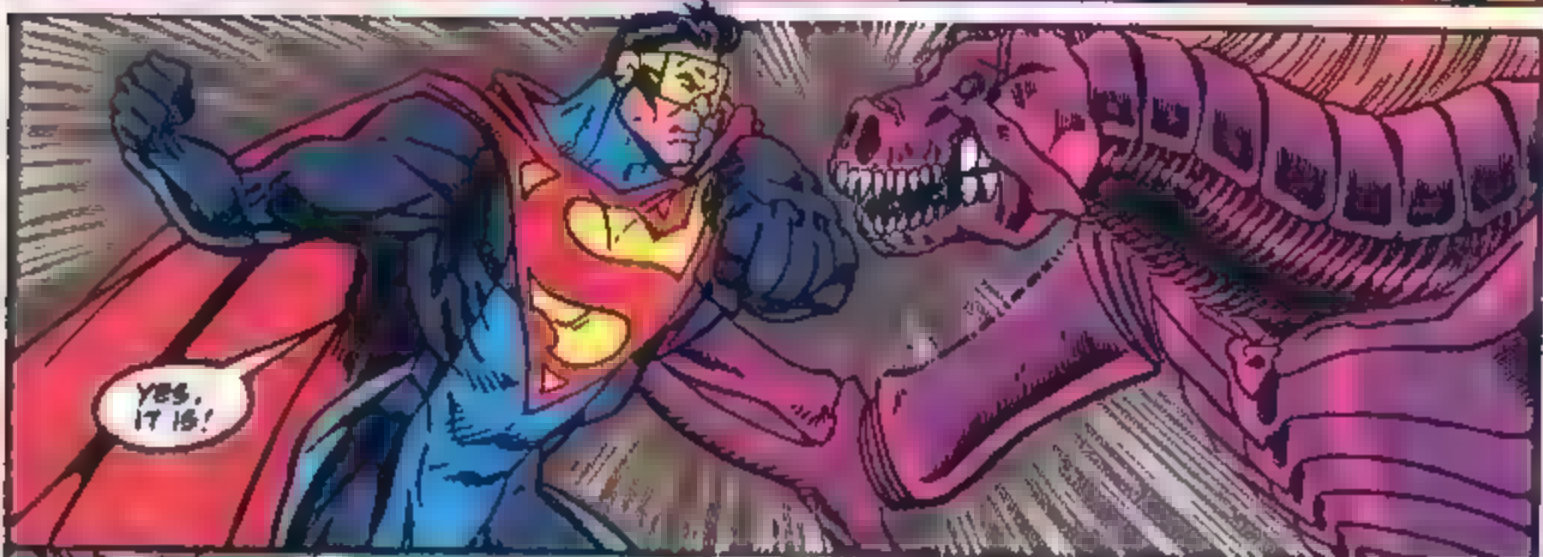
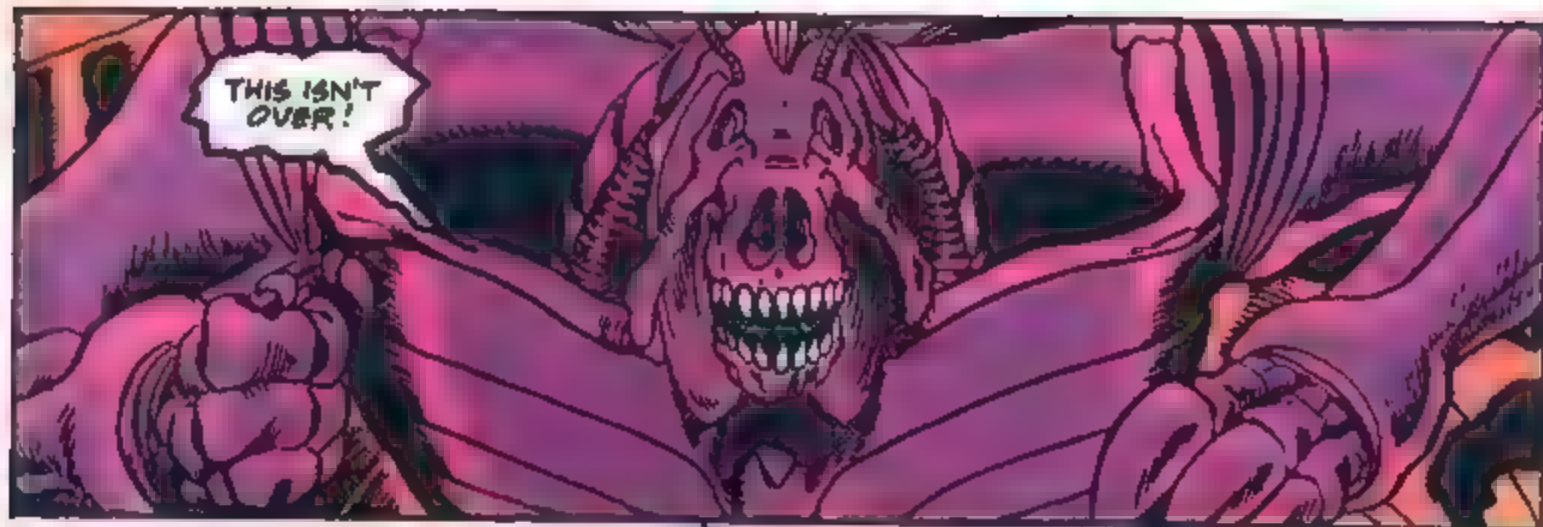
IF WE HAD
INDEED LEFT
YOU FOR
DEAD--

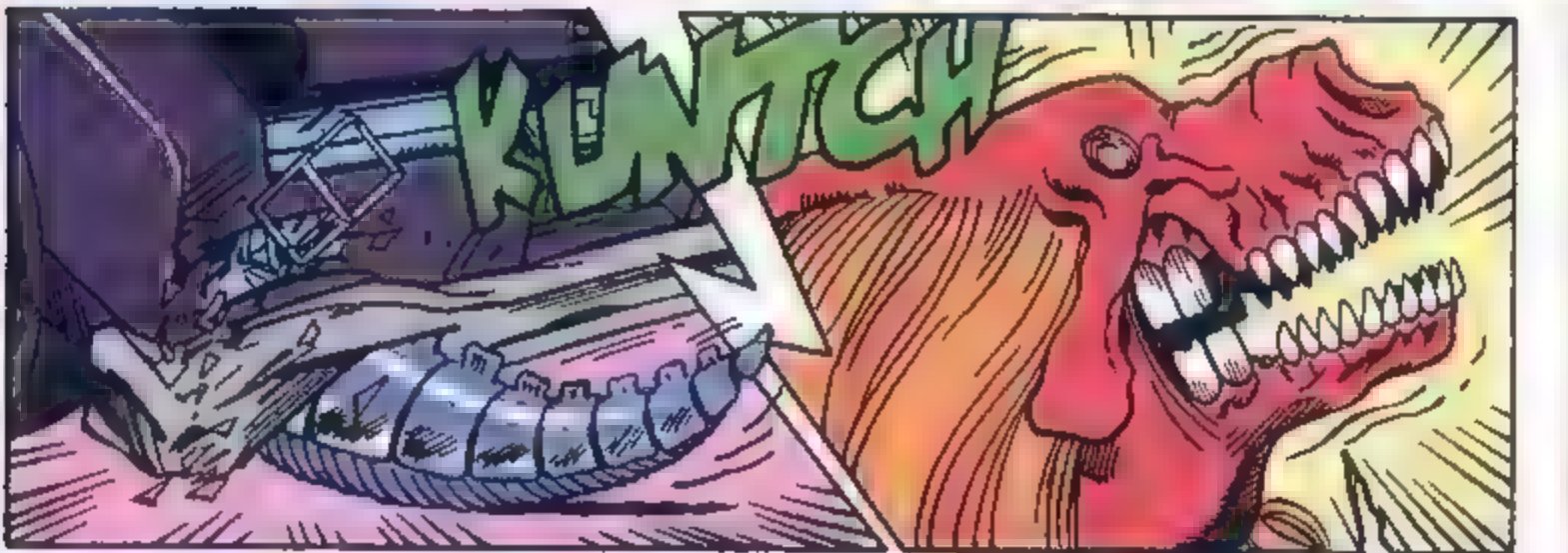
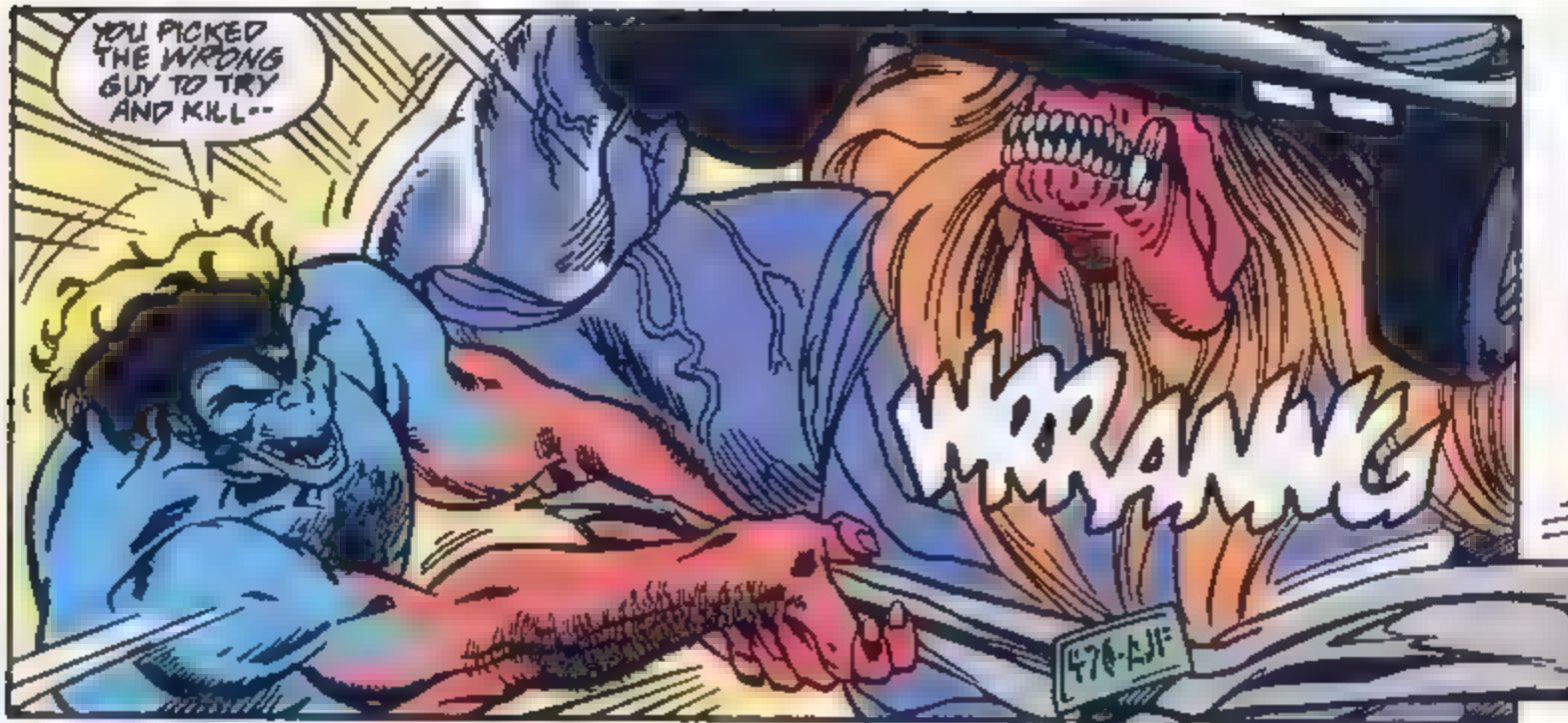


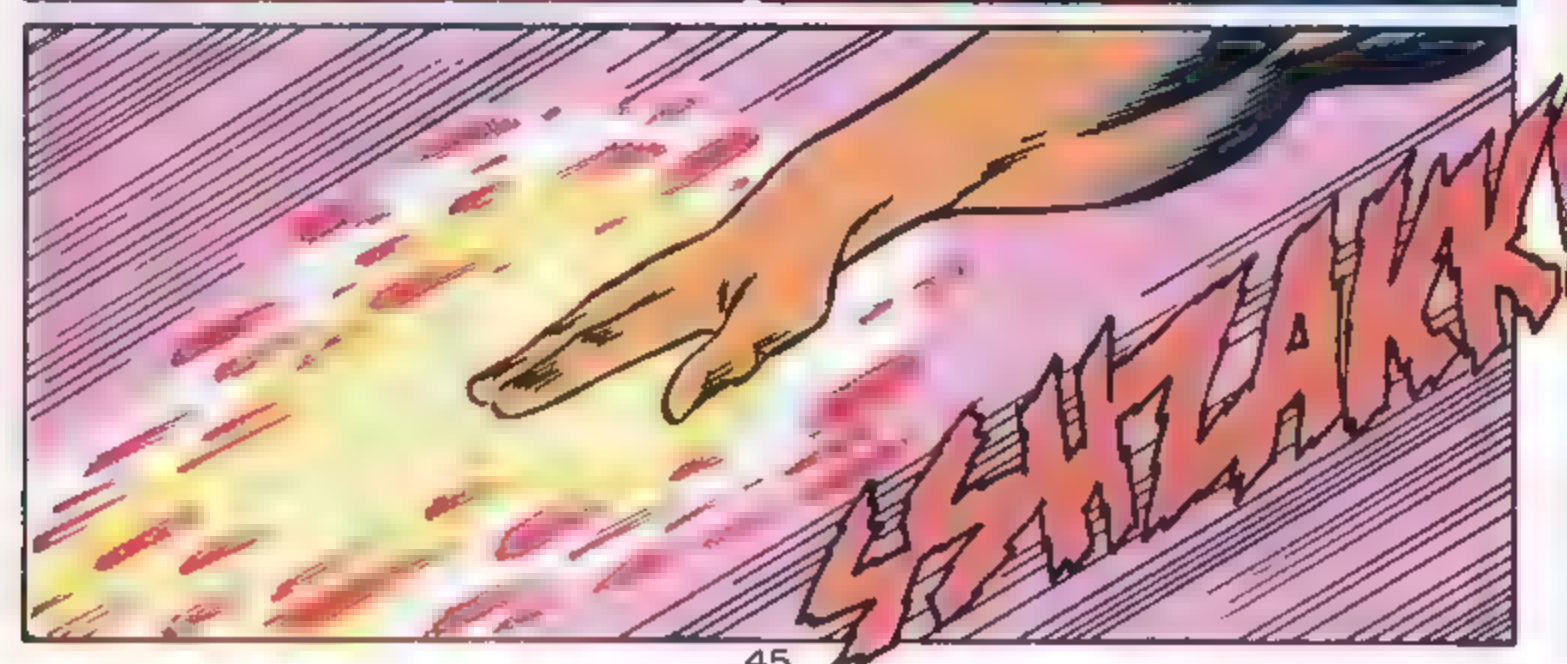
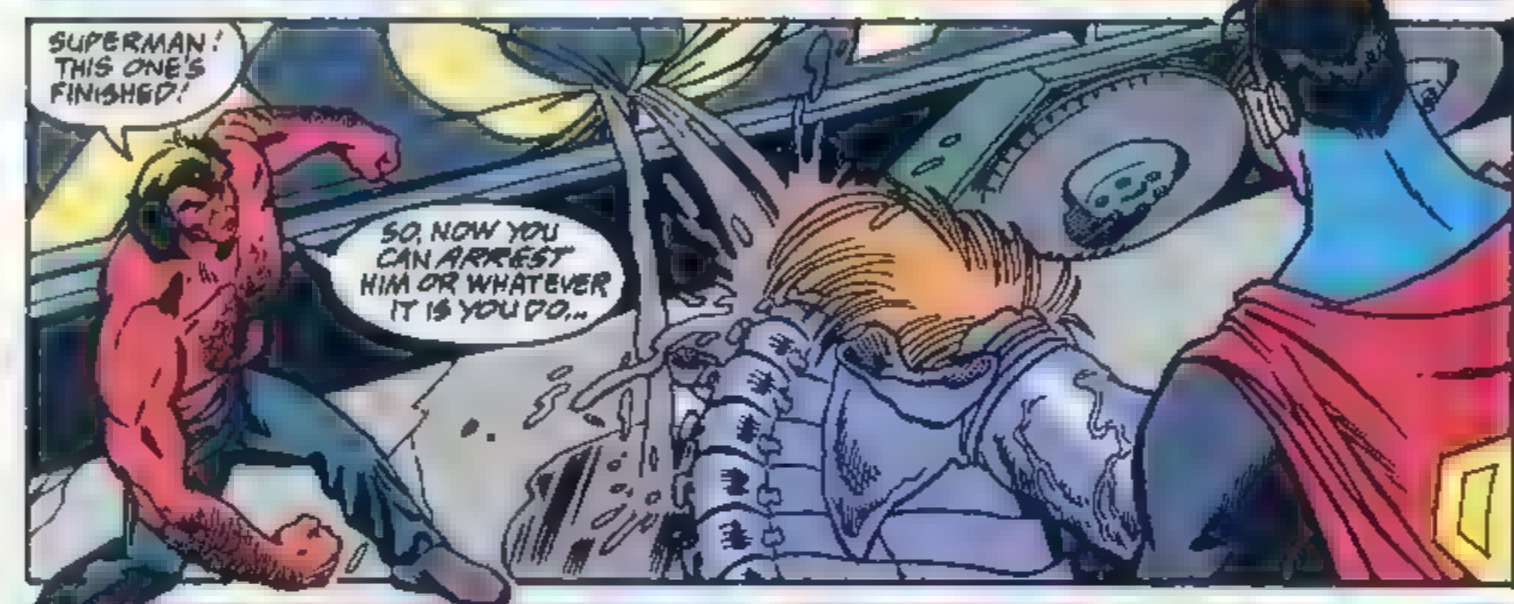
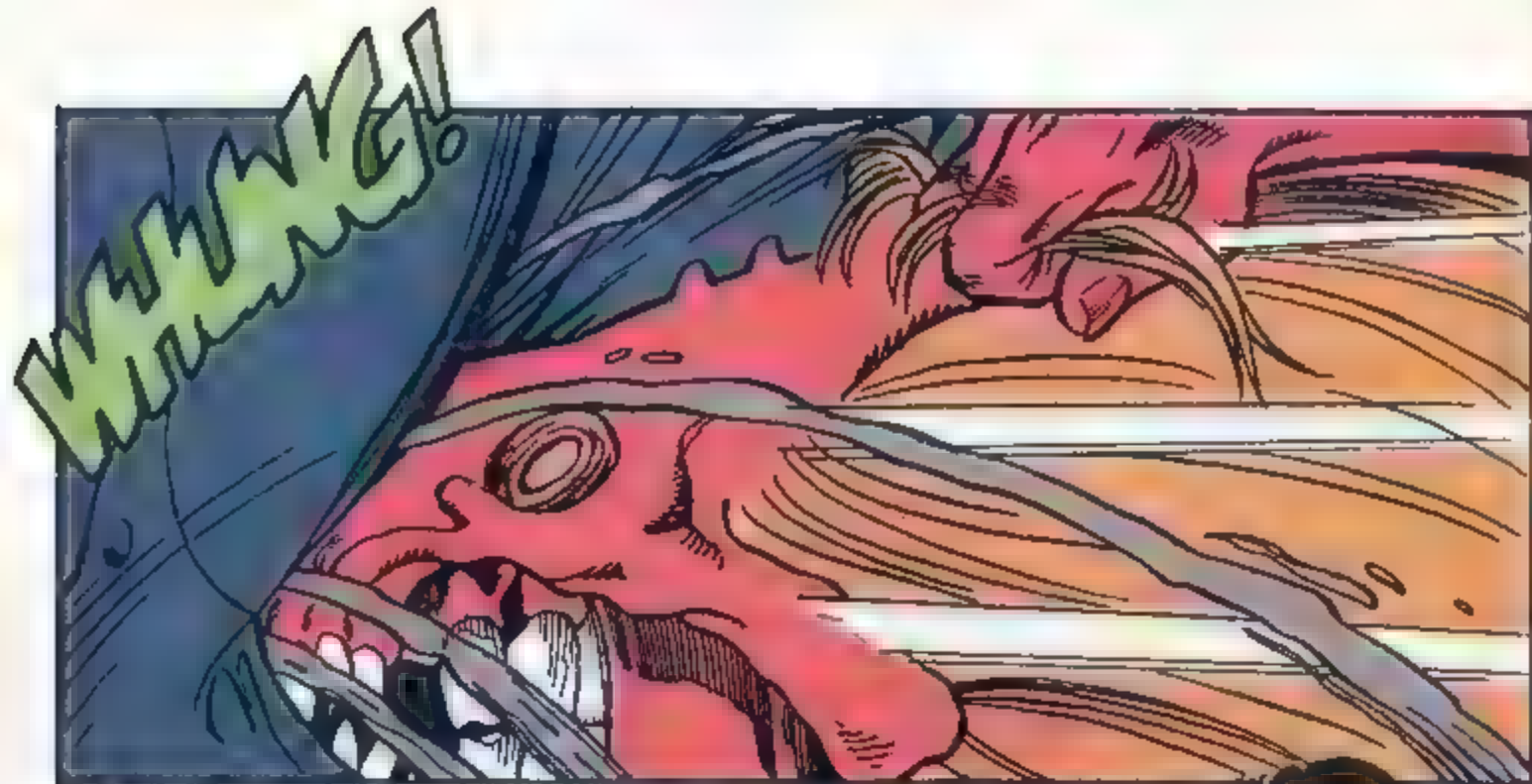
-- THEN,
WE SHOULD
FINISH THE
JOB!



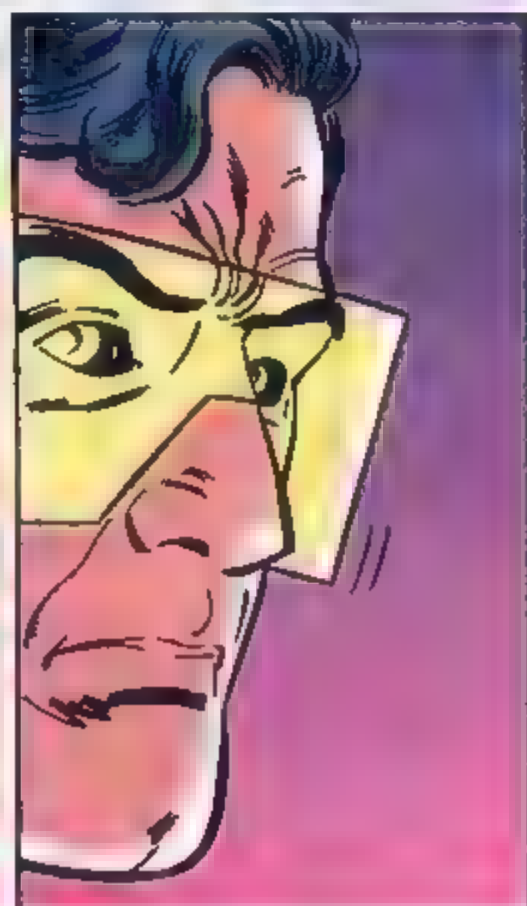
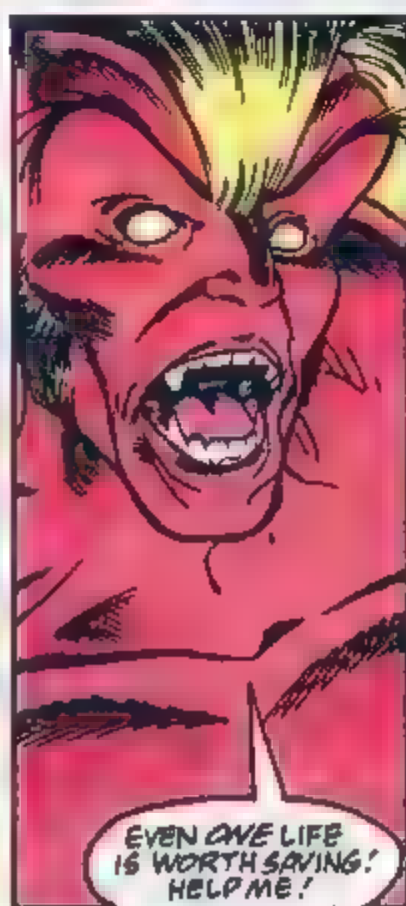
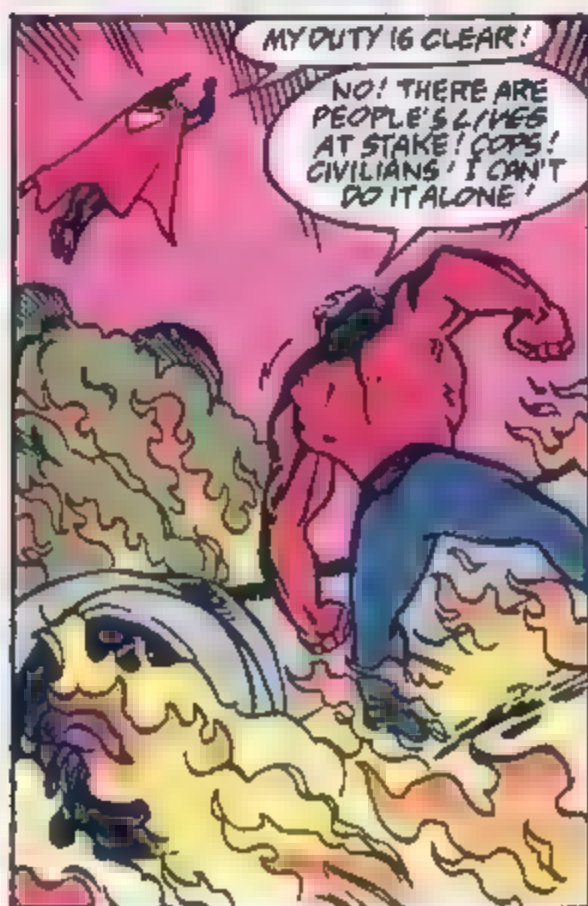
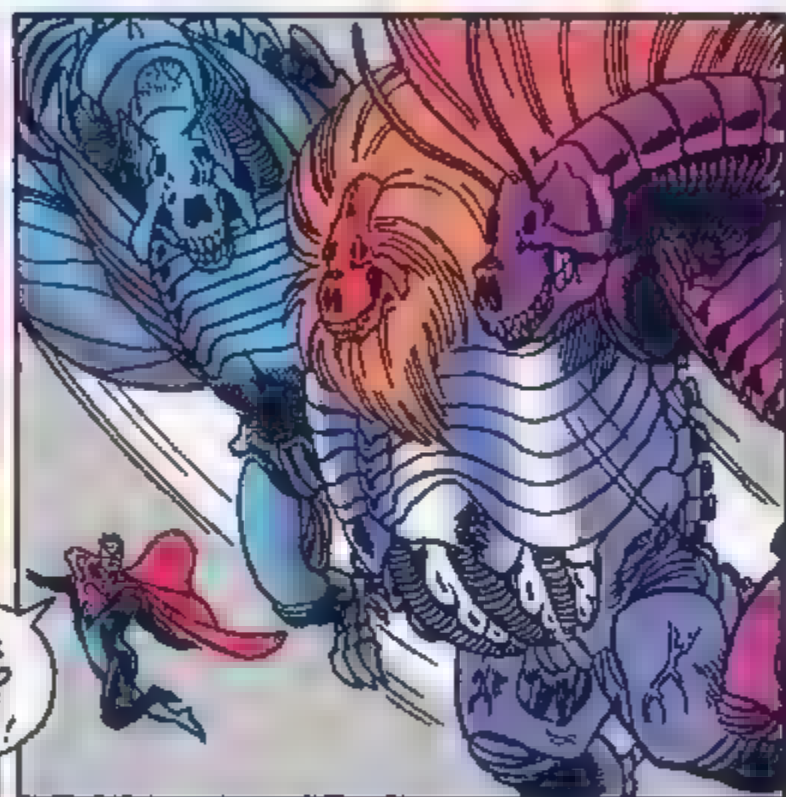
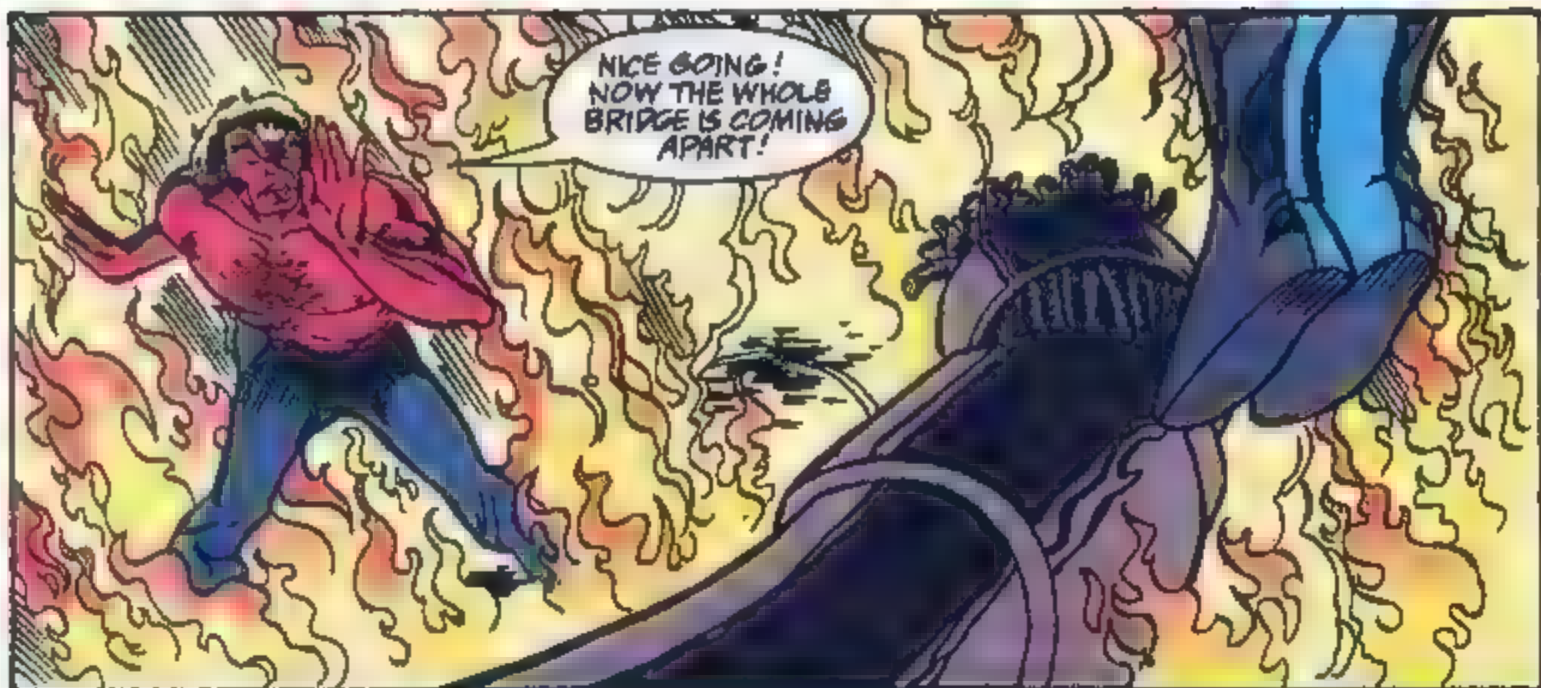


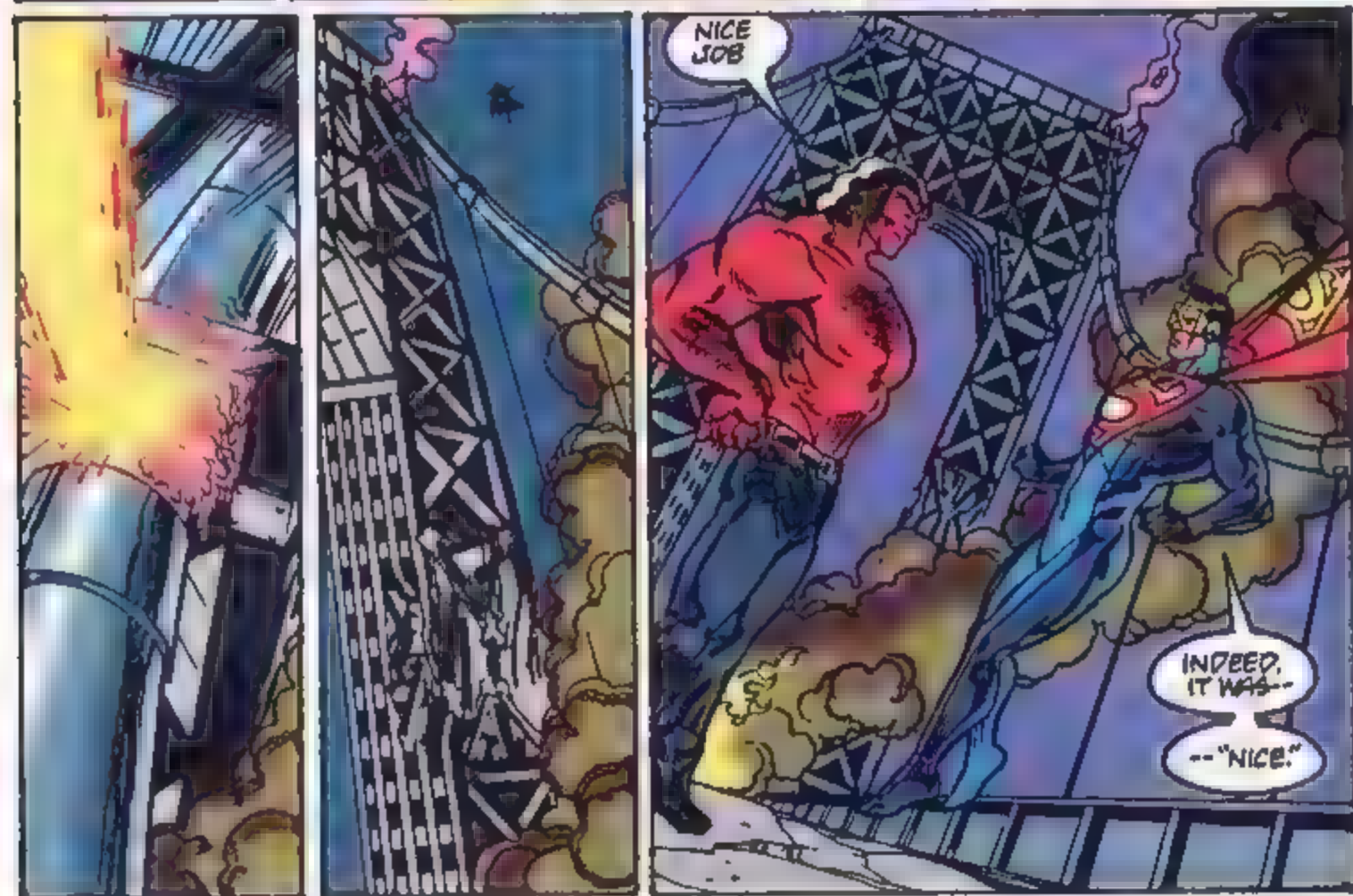
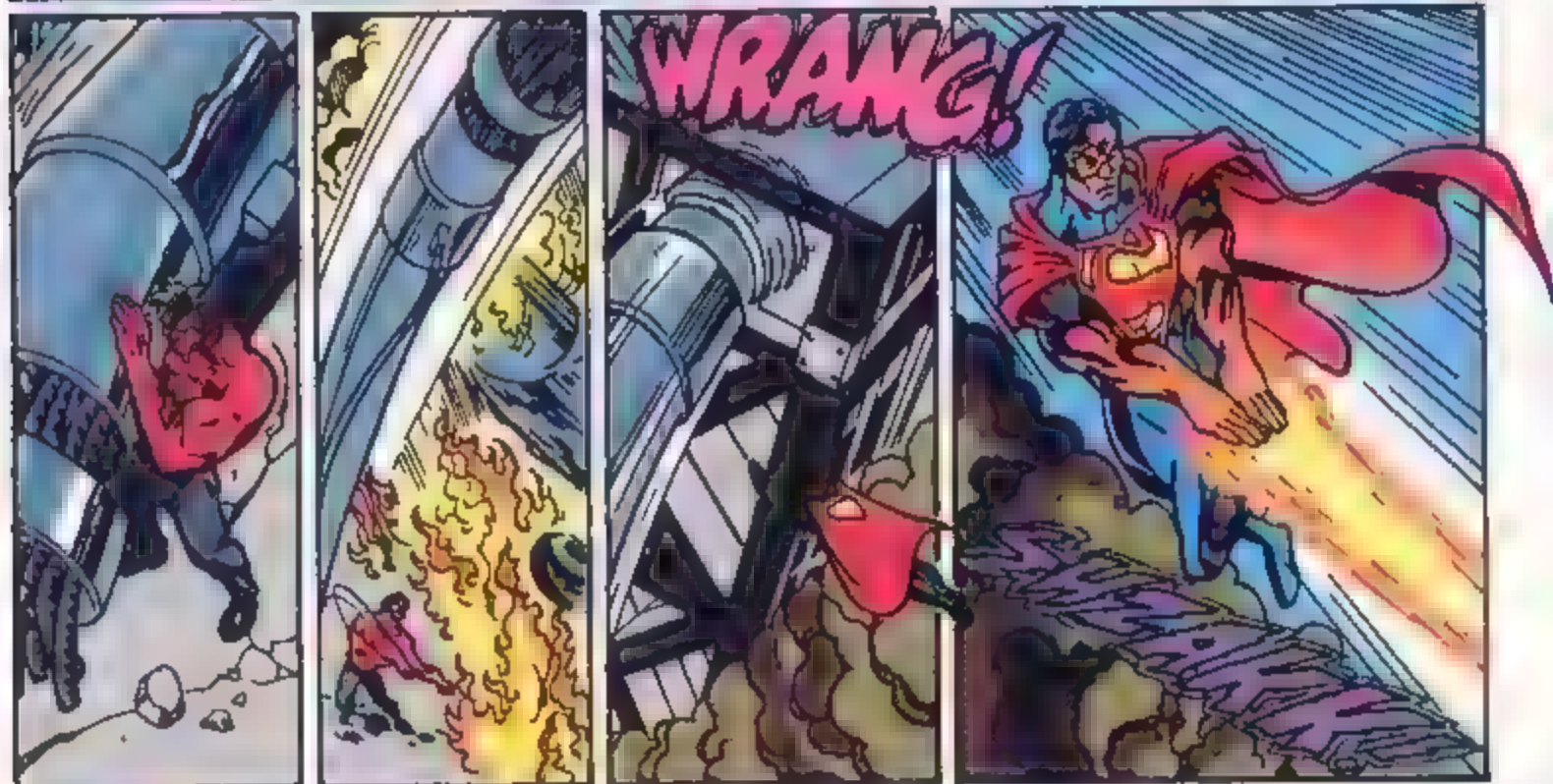
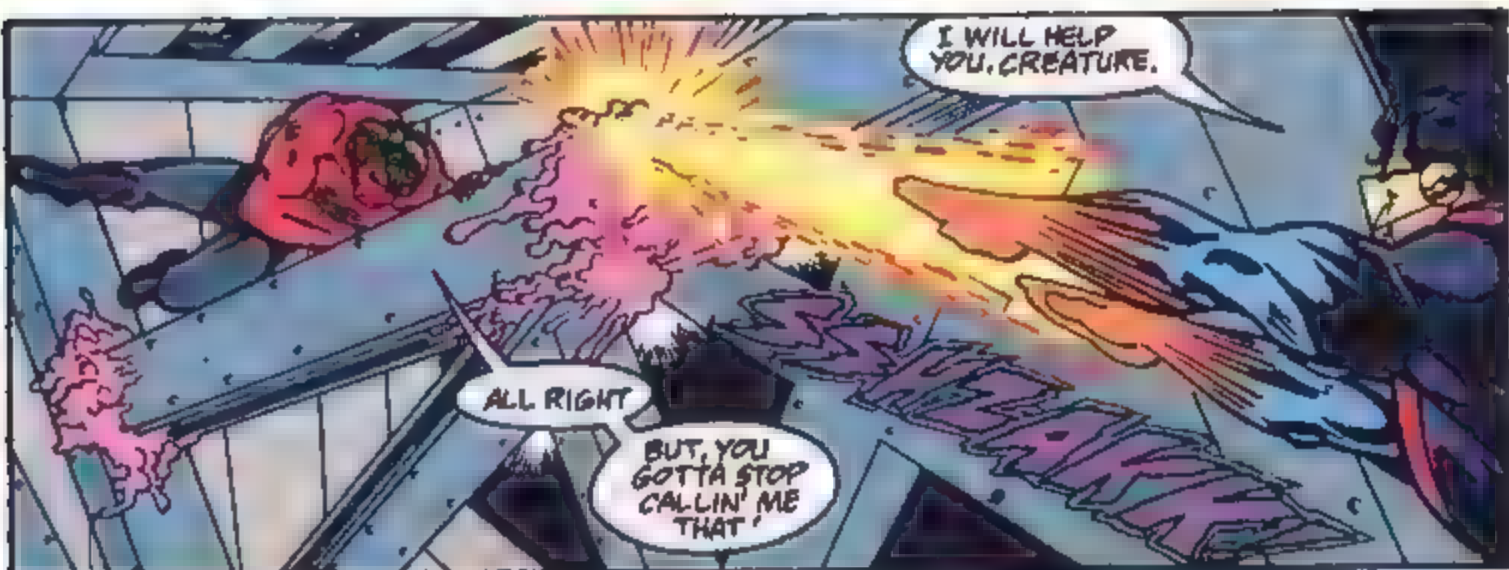


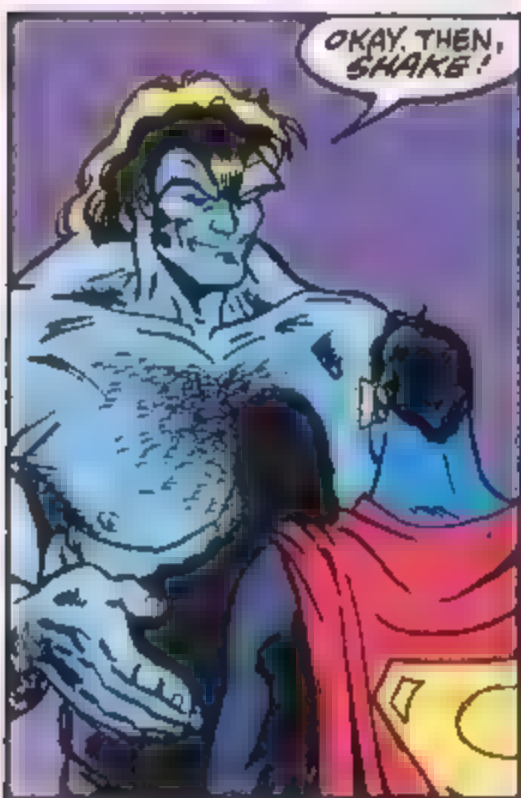














...MAYBE
IT /S TIME...

FRIEND.



I... JUST SHOOK SUPERMAN'S HAND...!

SO, WHAT'S YOUR STORY? YOU CAME OUT OF NOWHERE...



...60 TEN ROUNDS WITH SUPERMAN...



...AND ANOTHER TEN WITH THE UGLY BUG BALL...

...CAUSE MILLIONS IN DAMAGE...

YOU CHANGE FROM BLUE TO PURPLE TO RED... DEPENDING ON HOW YOU'RE FEELING...

...MAKING YOU "THE MOOD RING" OF THE SUPERHERO SET.



AND AFTER ALL THAT WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY FOR YOURSELF!?



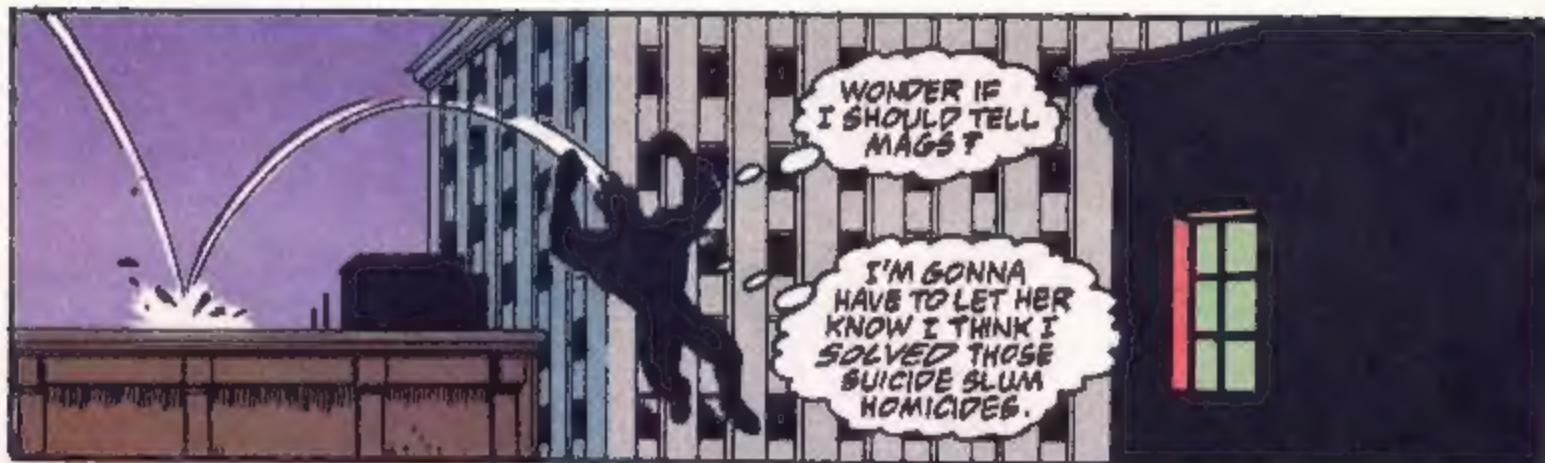
I'M STARVIN'. I'M GONNA GO GET ABOUT A DOZEN CHEESEBURGERS.



WAIT A SECOND!

JUST WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!





WONDER IF
I SHOULD TELL
MAGG?

I'M GONNA
HAVE TO LET HER
KNOW I THINK I
SOLVED THOSE
SUICIDE SLUM
HOMICIDES.



KCCCHK!

I GOT A
FEW MORE
IMMEDIATE
PROBLEMS.



DUNT

SNAP



MAN, WHAT A
NIGHT!

I CAN'T
BELIEVE
I'M SAYING
THIS...

- BUT IT'S
GREAT TO BE
ALIVE!



THAT
REMINDS
ME...

SUICIDE SLUM
HOMICIDES
GRISLY CRIME
SOLVED



STUPID, REALLY, EVEN
THINKING
ABOUT KILLING
YOURSELF.



JUST
BECAUSE
ALL YOUR
YESTERDAYS
SUCK...



...YOU
SHOULDN'T
STOP
TOMORROW.

P-KOW



'CAUSE
YOU NEVER
KNOW
WHAT IT'LL
BRING!

